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NICE :- 15, QUAI MASSÉNA

Woreat-Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 29 30, 1881.

PRINCE BISMARCK AND THE POPE So far as the rumours about German intervention in the Roman question refer toa projected restoration of the Pope's temporal power by the help of Germany they may be dismissed without further thought. It seems highly probable, however, that Prince Bismarck really has in view an intervention of another kind, and that he has proposed to the Pope and the Italian Government that the position of the former should be regulated by an international agreement, instead of, as now, by an Act the Italian Parliament. There are obvious reasons which might make a settlement of this kind agreeable to several of the Powers. To the Pope it would restore a freedom of movement and action which he greatly values. Notwithstanding the excuses offered by the Italian Government for their inaction at the time of the removal of the late Pope's body, it is impossible for the Pope to go about Rome he used to do without running great risk of insult. The police might arrest a few rioters after the offence had been committed; but they would not take those

large measures of precaution which could arene ensure the Pope against insults being If however, the protection of person devolved on the Italian nt by virtue not of a municipal an international treaty, the Government would be able ch precagtions as they knew to be with a very much better grace. neces Lalian Radical- if he were also a Even

utiage the Pope at the cost of embroiling is country with foreign Powers. In sturn for this security the Pope might give to Italy the vary great advantage of a reconciliation between the Government and the Church. The most conservative of forces would no longer be, as it is now, a revolutionary instrument. The Pope would have condoned the seizure of his temporal dominions, and in so doing he would have condoned the similar seizures which were effected at the expense of the Italian secular Princes. The connection between the Church and the principle of Legitimacy would be dissolved; and it would be no longer possible to argue that, as the Pope still denies the justice of the revolution which deprived him of his dominions, he must be understood by parity of reasoning to deny the justice of the revolutions which had subjected those secular Sovereigns to a similar fate. The authoritative upsetting of this theory would bring to the support of the Government a considerable number of Italians who now hold aloof from it. There has been some speculation on the part of the Italian papers as to the possibility of Prince Bismarck's effecting this change without giving offence to France. There is reason to think, however, that the French Government would be only less benefited by it than the Italian Government. An arrangement by which the Pope accepted the loss of his temporal power, and thereby condoned the infliction of similar losses on the Italian Princes, would be extremely distasteful to the French Legitimists. All these are but the subsidiary gains which Prince Bismarck might hope to reap from such an arrangement as has been suggested. His principal gain would be the conciliation of the Catholic party in Prussia and Germany on singularly easy conditions. At present the main difficulty which Prince Bismarck has to meet is the want of any sufficient inducement to Catholics to come to terms with the State. The Prince has been driven to modify the administration of the May Laws by circumstances which make it pretty certain that he will not again attempt to enforce them in their integrity. Consequently, when the German Catholics come to consider whether they shall accept his overtures, and vote

as he shall direct, they see no particular reason why they should do so. The concessions the Chancellor has already made to them have been dictated by considerations of self-interest; and there is no reason to fear that they will be withdrawn even if the Catholic party continues to hold itself neutral in parliamentary conflicts. Men seldom feel grateful for the simple cessation of annovance, and up to this time this is all that the German Catholics have had to thank Prince Bismarck for. But if he were to take the initiative in a transaction which would enable the Pope to come out of the Vatican, to visit the great basilicas, to be present at the great functions, and generally to appear in an attitude of visible triumph over his spiritual adversaries in the city in which he has for ten years lived the life of a recluse, German Catholics would really have something to be thankful for. No lingering love for Legitimist principles would be present to allow their satisfaction, and their votes would be given with the ardour that befits men who have the opportunity of showing genuine gratitude for a genuine service. Prince Bismarck may not be able to bring about an arrangement by which the immunities of the Pope in his character of Sovereign Pontiff shall be secured by an international instead of a municipal sanction; but he certainly has a very patent interest in effecting such an arrangement if it is possible for him to do so .- St. James's Gazette.

THE IRISH LADIES IN DISTRESS.

The particulars of the work done by the Association for the Relief of Irish Ladies in Distress, as furnished to the Lord Mayor, are interesting but distressing. The recipients of succour obviously find the bread of charity bitter to taste, and it is almost pathetic to notice how they seem to crave for work rather than doleswork that they can do with their own hands, and which, comparatively useless as it may be in many cases, yet brings them money which they fondly fancy is its market value :-

Under this section of their operations the Relief Committee buy materials, and give them to poor gentlewomen to make up into such garments as can subsequently be distri-buted among infirm and necessitous persons, to whom warm clothing during winter is in-dispensable. But there are many indigent ladies in Ireland who are too feeble to undertake even the lightest work, and the Association has to aid them with grants of money or loans directly. Since the foundation of the Association one hundred and six-teen claims have been considered, and grants or loans varying in amount from five to fifty pounds have been made to eighty-nine pounds have been made to eighty-fine claimants. Of course, many more cases are awaiting consideration, and how cruelly the ladies in question must be suffering is indicated by a letter from an applicant to the Directors of the Fund. She is the widow of a clergyman, and is entitled to twenty pounds a very formal and separate sight pounds a very year of rent, and seventy eight pounds a year on morigage. During the last eighteen months her income has dwindled away to seven pounds. She has three daughters de-pending on her, one of them deprived of the use of her limbs through an accident. This poor old lady is too feeble to work, and coninued privation has evidently crushed her pride. because she frankly says that, if assisted, she does not see how she will ever be able to pay back what is advanced to her. Yet hers is only one amongst hundreds of similar cases of destitution caused by the promulgation of the "No Rent" doctrine. Manifestly, the only thorough remedy for such suffering is to get in the rents, the non-payment of which has reduced so many innocent and gently-bred women to beggary. In that view every one who subscribes to the Property Defence Fund is also aiding the movement for the Relief of Irish Ladies in Distress; for there would be no distress amongst Irish ladies who are dependent on the returns from land for their slender incomes, if the law were only powerful enough to make the land yield any return in the shape of rent to those who own it .- Evening Standard.

NEWS FROM THE TRANSVAAL. The Durban correspondent of the Times,

telegraphing on Thursday, says :-The year closes with hopeful news from the Transvaal. I have just received advices from Pretoria which fully confirm my last statements as to the quiet character of the proceedings at Paardekraal. On the 14th inst. a large dinner party was held, at which the Landrost of Pretoria presided. Speeches were made by Messrs. Kruger, Joubert, Pretorius, and Jorrissen, Mr. Hudson, the British Resident, and Chief Justice Kotze. A review was held on the Dingaans on the 16th inst. The following was the chief feature of the gathering :- At 9 o'clock in the morning a gun was fired. The horses were instantly saddled, and the men, who were under arms, raced up to the top of the surrounding hills and lined them. In all there were about 2,000 mounted men, and the same number on foot. At the front of a high central platform a cairn was built of stones thrown down by the patriotic visitors. The rising ground was covered with women and children. Just below were men on foot, round whom the horsemen swept with remarkable celerity. This encircling movement surprised all who witnessed it, and this, combined with the accuracy of their fire and their simple commissariat arrangements, explains the causes which led to the Boer successes and to our disasters in the late war.

The sound of the hymns of thanksgiving which were sung round this cairn and a solemn service performed before an altar which had been raised in honour of the people's struggle for freedom were most impressive. After this service there was a general dispersion homeward. Not less than 15,000 people are estimated to have assembled, of whom 4,000 were armed men on horse and on foot. The meeting reflected great credit on the promoters, for a more orderly and a on the promoters, for a more orderly and a more well-behaved one has certainly never been seen in Europe. It had been thought that Englishmen would not be able to show their faces, but the people vied with other in showing kindly and hospitable treatment to all their English visitors. Politics ran high, particularly in the sermons, which were more like the fulminations of demagogues than the utterances of messengers of peace. My inutterances of messengers of peace. My informant says the most bitter feeling expressed was towards Colonel Lanyon, who was stigmatised as the author of all the troubles. The present form of government is regarded as merely temporary. The people look for the formation of a strong Government, mostly Africanders, under a good President. Chief Justice Kotze is in most favour with the majority, as being best fitted for the post by reason of his education, experience, unswerv-ing integrity, and high character. He enjoys the implicit confidence of both the Dutch and English. The condition of the Transvaal is not so bad as it is represented to be. Though money is most scarce, prices keep up, and business is brisk. The Boers' fear of a native outbreak has now subsided, and the natives are coming in to work, even from Mapoch's tribe. English visitors are well received a Boer houses. A general complaint is made of the new taxes. The Delagoa Bay Railway of the new taxes. The Delagoa Bay Railway project is likely to be revived. General Smythe arrived to-day at Durban from Cape

THE STATE OF IRELAND. THE IMPORTANT ARREST.

A Cork correspondent wrote on Thurs-

A man named Connell, a native of Millstreet, county Cork, a discharged soldier and at present in the militia, was arrested on Tues-day night, at Mushira, between Macroom and Millstreet, on a charge of having firearms in a proclaimed district. He was in bed with his clothing on when the arrest was made. In his vest pocket some documents were found disclosing the fact that a diabolical plot had been arranged by "Captain Moonlight" and his gang to murder two farmers named Sullivan and Coakley, because it was supposed they had paid their rent to the land-lord. Mr. Barry and Mr. Sullivan's two daughters were to have their hair cut off to the bone, on account of one having spoken to a policeman, and the other for deal a ponceman, and the other for dealing in the shop of Mr. Heygarty, a Boycotted trader in Millstreet. Connell, who is believed to be the real "Captain Moonlight," was arrested in the house of a farmer named Shea, and in one of the outhouses a number of revolvers were found. A gold watch was found in Connell's possession, which is believed to have been stolen from the house of a Mr. Cudmore when a raid was made on his dwelling at night some months ago. The most minute details were set forth in the document referred to above as to how the assas-sinaton of the two farmers was to be accomplished, and the date for the execution of the diabelical act was set down as the 30th of December, 1881. Connell is now in Cork County Gaol, and will be brought up at a special Court of Petty Sessions in a few days. It appears the two farmers had not paid their rent. Some important disclosures will in all probability be revealed at Connell's trial.

The following additional particulars have been received relative to the arrest of the exmilitiaman Connell. He is a native of Mill-street, and is about 20 years of age. Dis-charged for bad conduct from the regular forces, he joined the militia. On Tuesday night a large force of police, under Constable Cahill, proceeded to the house of Thomas Shea, a farmer living on the property of Mr. M. J. Barry, at Mushra, a place midway be-tween Macroom and Millstreet, and there arrested Connell on a charge of having arms

in his possession in a proclaimed district. It will be remembered that it was close to Mushra Mountain that Mr. Applebe, county surveyor, some months since, was fired at, in the middle of the day, while riding to Millstreet Petty Sessions to prosecute some road contractors. Shea's house is situated in a wild and isolated spot, and he has been described by a gentleman who has known him for years as a most industrious, hardworking, and improving tenant. The district around Mushra Mountain has been very much disturbed for the past two years, and it was here that most of those night attacks and raids for arms occurred that brought Millstreet into such unenviable prominence before the public. The police under Constable Cahill proceeded to Shea's house about midnight, knocked at the door, and were immediately admitted. Without much ado two or three of them rushed upstairs to a loft over the kitchen, and there in a bed with one of Shea's sons they found Connell lying in his clothes. He started up on the instant and endeavoured to divest himself of his waistcoat unnoticed and throw it away, but before he was able to do so a policeman seized hold of it. A struggle for the possession of the waist-coat ensued, in which one of Shea's daughters took part, and after considerable difficulty the policeman succeeded in taking possession of it. Tied up in an inside pocket of the waistcoat a number of documents were found, and on searching the rest of Connell's clothes a watch and several bullets were discovered. Having searched the place thoroughly the police proceeded to the out-houses, and there discovered four revolvers two six-chambered, of the newest description and two five-chambered, of an old class. There is a suspicion that one of the revolvers found was that taken from Mr. W. H. Masseews' gamekeeper, when he was attacked by an armed party three or four months ago, but the person who sold the revolver to the gamekeeper, though he says it is like it, could not identify it confidently. There is

> near Mill-street.
>
> It was hoped at the time that the outrages taking place in the district were not committed by any regular association for such a dreadful purpose, but from the documents found on Connell it would seem that a regular Ribbon Society has been in existence there for some time, by which sentences were passed and punishments inflicted. Amongst the papers is a list of "offences" against the unwritten code of Connell and his associates, for which the penalties have been already inflicted, and another list of "offences" for which it was intended to mete out punishment at some future date, all signed and countersigned with fictitious names, and winding it up with the words, "Examined and approved of as the work for the night.—(Signed), Captain Moox-

scarcely any doubt that the gold watch found was that stolen from Mr. Cudmore, who lives

Most important of all, however, was the plot disclosed for the murder to-morrow of two farmers living close to O'Shea's house, named Jas. Sullivan and Denis Coakley, and for the disfigurement of Sullivan's two daughters. The instructions for the attack were all described in the document found with the greatest care and minuteness. All certain place at a certain time. There, in a haystack close by, they would find materials for completely disguising themselves, false hair and whiskers, and masks, together with the arms to be used in firing at Sullivan and Coakley, and T shears for the purpose of cutting off the hair of Sullivan's two daughters. Fortunately, however, information of the attack must have reached the police, and hideous outrage planned with such premeditation and care has been averted. Sullivan and Coakley, however, are not the only per-sons who have been saved from the attack The names of others are set forth in the papers found as being guilty of less aggrarating offences, and were to be punished by having their ears cut or their property in-

It is expected that further arrests will be made in connexion with the case, but the police are silent on the matter.

THE CASE OF ALLEGED POISONING AT WIMBLEDON.

On Thursday afternoon Mr. Paget, at the Wandsworth Police-court, proceeded with the charge against Dr. George Henry Lamson for causing the death of his brother-in-law, Percy Malcolm John, aged 19, a student at Blen-heim-house, Wimbledon, by administering poison to him in a capsule while on a visit to him on the evening of the 3d inst. The same counsel appeared as before. Mr. Paget, at the last hearing of the case, suggested that an arrangement should be made to hear it at another court, on account of the limited time at his disposal at Wandsworth. He had communicated with Sir James Ingham, who had sent him a letter stating that he would proceed with the case at Bow-street. It was then proposed to hear witnesses as far as the time of the Court would allow, Mr. St. John Wontner, on behalf of the presecution, stating that the analysis was substantially completed, and that traces of aconite had been discovered. He also stated that experiments had been made with aconite upon animals.

John Edward Stiling, an assistant to Messrs. John Bell and Co., chemists, of Oxford-street, was the first witness called. He said that on the 11th of November last he made up a prescription for the prisoner, consisting of tion of morphia and atropia. On the 16th he called again, and witness supplied him with a similar solution. The prisoner also asked for five grains of pure digitaline, which is the active principle of foxglove, and poisonous if taken in large quantities. The prisoner said it was for internal use. Witness did not supply him with it, as he found the sample more coloured than he expected. The prisoner promised to call again in a few days, by which time witness arranged to obtain some fresh digitaline from the warehouse. The prisoner called again, and asked for one grain of aconite. Knowing it was an active poison, and as the prisoner said it was for internal use, he refused to serve him, and recommended him to procure it where he was better known. That was after consultation with another assistant. At the visit on the 16th the prisoner said he had left his practice at

Bournemouth in charge of his partner. Mr. David Ormond, of Enmore-park, South Norwood, said he was the trustee under the will of Mrs. Eliza John, widow of Mr. Williant John, of Swansea, who died in July 1866. She died in 1869 at Clifton, leaving five children, for whom he was trustee, two girls and three boys. The elder girl was married to the prisoner; one of the boys, Sidney, died in 1873; Margaret Eliza married Mr. Chapman; and Hubert died at the prisoner's house in 1879. At the time of the mother's death they were all minors. On coming of are each was entitled to a cartain coming of age each was entitled to a certain

sum of money.

Mr. Montagu Williams objected to the amount being mentioned, and said the will would prove it.

The witness continued, and said he placed the deceased at the establishment of Mr. Bedbrook, at Wimbledon, on the recom-mendation of Mr. Chapman's brother, who mendation of Mr. Chapman's brother, who had been a master there. The deceased was possessed of means, which were derived from India Four per Cents. and Consols, a

portion of which was left to him under his brother Hubert's will. Witness had not dis-tributed any portion of the property left by the deceased. The sisters were the only rethe deceased. The sisters were the only re-lations entitled to share it. Witness had not seen the prisoner since the burial of Hubert. In answer to further questions, the witness said he was not present at the prisoner's marriage with Miss John. Witness's solicitors paid over to the prisoner's wife what property she was possessed of under her mother's will.

Mr. William Greenfield Chapman, a clerk

in the Civil Service, residing at Nicholl-road, Willesden, said the prisoner was his brother-in-law. Witness received Miss John's portion after their marriage. The r lived at Rotherfield, near Tunbridge wells, after his marriage, where he had a practice as a surgeon. From there he wen practice as a surgeon. to Bournemouth, where he also practised as a surgeon. He left that place in April in the present year. Witness knew that the pri-soner went to America afterwards, about April. During his absence his wife remained for part of the time with witness at Wil-lesden.

Mr. Wontner here observed that these questions were material, as they referred to ocuments which would be produced.

The witness went on to say that the prisoner was absent for two months. Witness visited the Isle of Wight this year, and the deceased stayed with him at Shanklin. The prisoner was at Ventnor at the same time, and visited him at Shanklin. Witness remembered the deceased being ill at Shanklin. He vomited and was out of sorts generally The illness occurred in the afternoon and again in the evening and during the night. Witness could hardly call it illness; it was an indisposition. The deceased was waited upon by Mrs. Joliffe, the housekeeper, who was also the proprietress of the house, Clarence-villa. The indisposition followed on a visit by the prisoner, who had been at the house at an earlier period of the day. The illness, or whatever it was, passed off and the deceased stopped at Wimbledon when they returned home. Witness saw the deceased about a month or six weeks before his death. At the time of his death the prisoner's wife was not staying with witness She came shortly afterwards, in consequence of a telegram which he sent to her risoner's father lived at Florence. Witness elegraphed to him after having communicated with the authorities at Scotland-yard. After telegraphing to Florence he received a telegram, and he communicated with the prioner's wife. He could not remember whether he communicated with the prisoner. To his personal knowledge, he did not know whether the prisoner's wife communicated with him. Witness showed the telegram to Inspector Butcher. The next morning the prisoner's wife left with an object of which he vas aware. On the same day he heard that

the prisoner was in custody.

Mr. Williams then said he thought that would be a convenient point at which to

Mr. Paget read the letter which he had reeived from Sir James Ingham, and said he inferred from it that he was prepared to pro-ceed with the case at Bow-street to-morrow

Mr. Wontner said he wished to make a statement as speedily as possible to prevent any supposition that he had intended to keep anything back. It appeared that various things which were found in the deceased's box were handed to the police, among them being a box containing two pills wrapped u in a peculiar manner and having the appearance of the box which the prisoner stated that he had sent from America. There was also a box of powders bearing the name of a chemist in the Isle of Wight, who would be called, and they were all sent by Mr. Bedbrook to the police without any knowledge that there was anything wrong. The pills and powders were sent to the analyst for examination. In the pills the analyst found a sufficient quantity of aconite to cause death The powders were numbered from one to 20. Up to 15 they contained quinine such as was sold by the chemist; No. 16 contained half a grain of aconite and 17 a quarter of a grain. That information had just come to his know-ledge, but he thought it right to make this statement lest it should be supposed that he was concealing anything.

Mr. Paget said the learned gentleman was

quite right in making the statement.

The prisoner was then remanded to be brought up at Bow-street on Friday, when an arrangement would be made for Sir James Ingham to proceed with the case.

AMERICAN RACEHORSES IN ENGLAND

The various triumphs achieved by race-horses keed in the United States in the course of the year now drawing to a close have been adverted to from time to time, but now that they have been allowed to go into winter quarters a rapid review of these victories cannot fail to excite interest, illustrating as they do, with singular force, the prediction of the greatest sporting writer of his age, who in 1831 said that before half a century was over English breeders would find it necessary to renovate their strains of blood from the United States. For a long time it seemed as if there was little chance of this prediction being verified; for, though Mr. Ten Broeck had the enterprise to bring a team of racers from the United States about five-and-twenty years ago, he scarcely met with a success which would justify "Nimrod's "bold prophecy. One of his horses won the Cesarewitch under a very light weight, and another secured the Goodwood Cup at a time when foreign horses were deemed so much inferior to our own that they were cesarded as allowance of weight. they were accorded an allowance of weight. Ten Broeck had a favourite, too, for the Derby in the year when Thormanby won for Mr. Merry, and when Lord Palmerston was unplaced with Mainstone, but Umpire was by no means of the stuff from which Derby winners are made, and with him may be said to have closed the first equine invasion from

About fifteen years elapsed before another owner of horses in the United States was bold enough to try the experiment afresh but Mr. Sanford, who ran second with a colt called Black Prince for the Two Thousand Guineas of 1877, did not do so well as Mr. Ten Broeck, and he has not kept up a large stud at Newmarket. He was followed, however, at a year or two's interval by Mr. Pierre Lorillard, whose name was made very familiar to the racing world in the spring of 1879 by the many victories which Parole achieved in the spring handicaps. Parole beat Mr. Gretton's "cup horse" Isonomy at Newmarket, and won both the handicaps at Newmarket, and won both the handicaps at Epsom; but he was not always to be trusted and he eventually returned to America without adding puch to the fame of American racehorses. Mr. Lorillard had in the meanwhile formed a large stud at Newmarket, and last season he won the Spring Handicap there with Wallenstein, and introduced to the public a two-year-old named Iroquois, whom one of our most experienced trainers declared to be "the future winner of the Derby" after he had seen him run in the July Stakes at head-quarters. In his subsequent performances, however, Iroquois lost his character entirely, and when the present season began his prospects of winning the Derby seemed very remote. A better chance would have been that of Foxhall, a colt belonging to Mr. Keene, the New York stockbroker, who had also formed a racing stud at Newmarket, if he had been entered, but as his name was omitted from all the great three-year prizes in England no one could have expected that

the Cambridgeshire. Such, however, is the the Cambridgeshire. Such, however, is the total standing to their credit, and of this sum £18,310 has been won by Mr. Lorillard. His colt Iroquois, who has won seven races out of nine, began by running second for the Two Thousand Guiness, the enly other occasion upon which he has known defeat being when he ran third to Bend Or for the Champion Stakes at Newmarket. Iroquois' winnings include the Newmarket Stakes of £275, the Burwell Stakes of £180, the Epsom Derby of £5,295, the Prince of the Epsom Derby of £5.295, the Prince of Wales's Stakes (£2,800) and the St. James's Palace Stakes of £1,500 at Ascot, the Doncaster St. Leger of £5,450, and the Newmarket Derby of £695. He has also received £203 for the two races in which he was "placed," while his owner's winning score has been increased by Mistake, who won the International Handicap of £708 at New-market, and who ran second for the Lincoln-shire Handicap, and Gerald, who, second in the Middle Park Plate, was allowed to win a sweepstakes of £400 at the last of the Newmarket meetings, and who is almost first favourite for next year's Derby. Mr. Loril-lard has therefore every prospect of being as successful next season as he was this, and he may feel a certain amount of satisfaction at two victories which have been achieved by Passaic, who has won two races worth £350 since he was sold out of his stable, at the success last week in the Great Shropshire Handicap (£912) of Wallenstein, who has been purchased by Lord Ellesmere, and at the proficiency over hurdles of another of his cast-offs called Dakota, who won the prin-cipal hurdle race at Deauville this summer.

The victories which have been achieved by Mr. Keene are less numerous, for, with the exception of Golden Gate, who won the Granby Stakes of £340 at Newmarket, and of Marshal Macdonald, who secured a selling plate of £130 at Sandown Park, his only winner has been Foxhall. This colt, as has been stated above, had no engagement in the great races, and as he could only run a bad econd to Bend Or, at a great advantage in the weights, for the City and Suburban Handicap at Epsom, it seemed as if his merits had been unduly magnified. He did little towards retrieving his character in the Grand Prix de Paris—the value of which (£6,358) added to the total won in England, brings the American balance up to £31,390—for, though he won the race, it was only by the skin of his teeth and by the jockeyship of Fordham; and as shortly after this he failed to obtain a place in the Ascot Cup, he was set down as far the inferior of Iroquois. During this period he had been in training at Newmarket, but his owner's horses were shortly afterwards placed under the charge of William Day in Hampshire, and the change of air proved so beneficial to Foxhall that when he ran for the Grand Duke Michael Stakes at the first of the Newmarket autumn meetings he looked quite another horse. His easy success in this race, worth £747, paved the way for his still more meritorious triumph in the Cesarewitch with the respectable impost of 7st 12lb. But this performance, good as it was, sinks into in-significance beside his final victory for the Cambridgeshire Stakes, as no three-year-old had ever before won under such a weight as 9st. That Foxhall was rather lucky to have

won outright is generally admitted, but making all due allowance for the contretemps to his two nearest opponents the performance stamps him as a genuine good horse, and as the hero of the season. His three victories the hero of the season. His three victories in the Cesarewitch, the Select, and the Cambridgeshire Stakes brought in £1,287, £445, de Paris he earned close on £11,000 for his owner, and will, with Iroquois and Gerald, help to keep the American horses as prominently before the public next season as they have been this .- Daily News.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon accompanied by Princess Louise. Her Majesty went out this morning, attended by the Hon. Lady Lambart. Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and the Marquis of Lorne drove to Ryde this morning, attended by Miss Norelc. The Rev. Canon and Mrs. Prothero had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family on Monday

The funeral of the late Lord Justice Lush will take place at Kensal-green Cemetery on Monday next.

The death is announced of Lady Barron, widow of the late Sir H. W. Barron, Bart., formerly M.P. for Waterford, which oc-curred on Tuesday last at her residence in curred on Tuesday last at her residence in Halkin-street, Belgrave-square. The late Lady Barron was the youngest daughter of Lord Charles Henry Somerset, second son of Henry, fifth Duke of Beaufort, by his second wife Mary, second daughter of John, fourth Earl Poulett. She was born 21st April, 1824, and married 1st August, 1863, Sir Winston Barron, Bart., and was left

A message from Dublin announces that Mr. Justice O'Brien died in that city on Thursday, in his 76th year.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. STREET, R.A.

The remains of George Edmund Street, R.A., were interred on Thursday afternoon in the nave of Westminster Abbey, at the foot of the last resting-place of his early master, Sir Gilbert Scott. The obsequies were attended by some two thousand persons. pall-bearers were Mr. W. H. M.P. (as representing the Prime Minister), Mr. Shaw Lefevre, M.P., the President of the Royal Academy (Sir F. Leighton), Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., Mr. Justice Kay, the Bishop of Winchester, the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects (Mr. Hayter Lewis), and Mr. E. Freshfield. The carriages sent to join the funeral cortège in-cluded that of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The Council of the Royal Academy assembled at Burlington House some time before the hour of the funeral, and proceedbefore the hour of the funeral, and proceeding in four carriages to Cavendish-square
joined the cortege of mourning relatives and
friends as it left the house of the deceased in
Cavendish-place. The Council of the Royal
Institute of British Architects, assembling at
9, Conduit-street, also took their place in
the procession, to which they added ten carincrease the research had. riages at the same point. The general body of the last-named institute, together with members of the Society of Antiquaries and the Architectural Association assembled at the Jerusalem Chamber, and joined the procession of mourners and friends as they entered the Abbey from Dean's-yard through the west cloisters. The funeral car was an open one, drawn by four horses. The coffin was of polished oak, and had a wedge-shaped top of mediæval type. It bore on a brass plate the simple inscription: "George Edmund Street, R.A. Born June 20th, 1824; died December 18th, 1881." The private mourners who followed the funeral car in eight coaches were:—Mr. Arthur Street, Mr. Thomas Street, Mr. Thomas Street, Jun., Mr. F. E. Street, Mr. G. H. P. Street, Major Proctor, Mr. William Holland, Rev. Cyril Holland, Mr. Stuart Holland, Mr. Stephen Holland, Mr. J. P. Collier, Mr. Charles Jones, Mr. Thomas Thomas, Mr. H. de Zoete, Mr. Sawell Park P. Whith Park J. Street, Mr. Sawell Park P. Whith P tell, Rev. B. Webb, Rev. J. Shearme, Mr. Frank Walton, the Dean of St. Paul's, Mr. Mitford, Dr. Ogle, the Dean of Carlisle, Rev. B. Compton, Mr. Holland, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Gandy. These coaches, as well as those that followed, were ordinary broughams. Among the numerous friends who assembled at the cloisters were the Hon. E. F. Leveson-Gower, M.P., Sir H. Cole, Sir A. Clay, Bart., Canon Liddon, Mr. G. G. Scott, Mr.

E. Waterhouse, Mr. J. M. Clabon, and Mr. Bowman, F.R.S. The sacrarium, the space under the lantern, and the choir were under the lantern, and the choir were crowded with the friends of the deceased. Specially reserved seats in the choir were occupied by the ladies of the deceased's family and their friends. In the impressive service—the choral one from the music of Handel, Purcell, Groft, and Spohr, usually performed at the Abbey—the Dean of Westminster and Canon Duckworth were the officiating clergy. As the procession entered the choir the opening sentences, "I am the resurrection and the life," from Croft, were chanted by the choristers, who afterwards sang Purcell's chant. The coffin, which was placed near the steps of the sacrarium, was covered with a pall of violet-coloured velvet, ornamented with a large red cross. It was that used at the funeral of Sir Gilbert Scott. The lesson was read by Canon Duckworth, and at the conclusion of the first portion of the Burial Service the coffin was carried back to the nave to the impressive music of Beetheto the nave to the impressive music of Beethoven's "Funeral March," played by Dr. Bridge on the organ. As the mourners and friends assembled round the grave, Purcell's "Thou knowest, Lord," and "I heard a voice" were sung, and at the close of the service the choir again joined in the beautiful strains from Handel, "His body is burled in peace." The Dean pronounced the benediction, and while the organist played the "Dead March" in Saul, the mourners took their last farewell at the grave. Many wreaths of beautiful flowers were placed on the remains after interment, the peculiar shape of the coffin having pre-vented their being placed upon it until after it had been lowered into the tomb.

A MARQUIS CHARGED WITH FRAUD.

At the Mansion House, on Thursday, Mr. Tickell, barrister, addressing the Lord Mayor, said that he appeared to support a summons against the Marquis of Huntly for obtaining £2,418 by false pretences from Benjamin Nicholson, a bill-broker, of Lombard-street. Nicholson, a bill-broker, of Lombard-street. The summons was returnable that day; but Smith, the summoning officer of the court, after having gone to the residence of the marquis, in Portman-square, and to the Devonshire Club, could get no other information except that "the Marquis of Huntly is out of town." The solicitors for the prosecution had also made inquiries, and had communicated with the legal gentlemen who had acted for the marquis, but they declined to give any information as to his lordship's address. The Lord Mayor, he knew, was cognisant of certain facts in connexion with the case, and he (Mr. Tickell) had further to the case, and he (Mr. Tickell) had further to observe that the solicitors had also written to a Mr. Fitch, who acted as the agent of the marquis when the cheque was handed over, and from him they had ascertained that the last time the marquis was heard of he was in Constantinople, and was now believed to be in Russia. It was recited in the brief that the marquis left England in June last, after resigning several lucrative positions, and had not returned to England. Under these cirnot returned to England. Under these circumstances he had to apply that a warrant should be issued for the arrest of his lordship, so that the extradition proceedings might be furthered without delay. It would be idle for the Court to issue another summons, for it was clear that the noble marquis was keeping out of the country in order that he might evade any process that could be served upon him.

Mayor understood from the statement of the learned counsel that he knew the legal gentlemen who had acted for marquis. Mr. Tickell said his lordship would recollect that annexed to the information on which the summons was granted were docu-ments relating to several civil proceedings in the Court of Chancery, and the solicitors who acted for the marquis were there named. The solicitors for the prosecution had communi-cated with those gentlemen, as well as with another solicitor who now acted for his lordship, but all of them declined to give any in-formation whatever. The Lord Mayor said that the prosecution evidently knew the name of the gentleman who now acted for the marquis. Mr. Tickell: Yes, but he declined to accept any summons or to act for his lord-ship in these matters. The solicitors in the civil proceedings had declared they were not authorised to receive any process for the marquis, or to act for him in any manner. The prosecution therefore asked for a warrant so that his lordship might be brought to this country and tried at the Old Bailey. The Lord Mayor thought it would be best to adjourn the summons for a fortnight, and in the meantime they could communicate with the legal gentleman who had his lordship's affairs in hand. Mr. Tickell looked upon any delay as

in hand. Mr. Tickell looked upon any delay as inefficacious.

The Lord Mayor said he had seen some of the papers, and he noticed there had been civil proceedings against the marguis, and that part of the money had been obtained. Proceedings had also been instituted in the Court of Chancery in reference to charges on his lordship's property. Looking at the fact that the question now before him was one of a criminal nature, and that after it had been treated in a civil court, where part of been treated in a civil court, where part of the money had been recovered, and more-over that the marquis's present solicitor was known, he was of opinion that the summons should be adjourned for a fortnight. The prosecution would be in no worse position then, seeing that the noble marquis Mr. Tickell remarked that directly they obtained a warrant they could expedite proceedings and bring the marquis back to this country. The civil proceedings under which part of the money had been recovered were not undertaken by the prosecutor in this case. The money was recovered on bills of exchange prior to the fraud being discovered. It was after the cheque had been presented to the marquis that the prosecutor ascertained the falsity of the pretences made. The Lord Mayor supposed that if the balance had been paid no proceedings would have been taken against the marquis. Mr. Tickell said that such a remark would apply to all cases of debt. The Lord Mayor was unable to say what might arise in the meantime, but he should order the summons to be adjourned till Jan. 12, when, if there was no appearance, the case against the noble marquis would be much stronger than it was at the present time. Mr. Tickell said that the present time. Mr. Tickell said that the solicitors would be again communicated with, and at the expiration of the fortnight his application would be renewed.

CHURCH AND CHAPEL ATTENDANCE.

The Bishop of Winchester, in a letter to the Times, makes some remarks on the subject of the attempted "religious census of our large towns" from "the point of view of a Churchman." The Bishop observes "that the Church claims to be the National Church, the Church claims to be the National Church, not merely on the ground of numerical majority, but because it was the National Church and the moulder and director of national life in England from the very time when England first became a nation." He admits, however, that "if the National Church has lost her hold on more than half of those who should be her children, she has certainly sone much, disastrous as it will be for the nation, to forfeit the confidence and support of the nation wherever it shall throw off its National Church." But, the Bishop continues:—

The now proverbial saying is proverbially true, that "nothing is so fallacious as facts, except figures." I say nothing of the supposed "whip," either in 1851 or 183t, which is spoken of as filling chapels on the special Sunday. I have not the least intention of detracting from the zeat of Nonconformist ministers or Wesleyan class leaders, or of denying the good which they are doing among those to whom their influence reaches. But, as a matter of fact, their influence reaches more to certain classes of society than to others; and those classes are what we commonly call the

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LONDON, DEC 31, 1881-JAN. 1. 1882.

THE OLD YEAR.

The Times says :- The year 1881, though not distinguished by wars or revolutionary changes of the first magnitude, presents a record of memorable and important events in almost every country in the world. At home the Irish difficulty has grown to the most formidable proportions; British agriculture, already sorely smitten, has had to bear the keen disappointment of another unfavourable harvest. France has been drawn into the perilous labyrinth of the Tunisian expedition, while in her domestic politics the Republic has lost much of the character for moderation. In Germany, as in France, and also in Holland, in Belgium, in Spain, in Hungary, and in

Bulgaria, public opinion has been agitated by general elections; political feuds have en embittered and the dominance of Prince Bismarck threatened. Though the different countries of Europe have had their internal troubles, the international relations of the great Powers have been more tranquil and easy than at any time since the battle of Sadowa.

The Spectator says :- Politically speaking, the past year has certainly been the most disagreeable of years, though neither the most calamitous nor the most devoid of promise. It has been a year of continual disappointment; the disappointment in the seasons has been but a symbol of our disappointments in political life. Even the best work of the year has been dashed with serious disappointment. The least sanguine of us looked-no doubt unreasonably-for more result before the year closed than we have actually had. There is no European country but Greece which can definitely congratulate itself on the course of its events, and we have certainly a picture of disagreeables-especially in relation to the development of the parliamentary institutions of Europe-which, though very far from being of a nature to create despair, distinguishes 1881 as the year of most persistent disappointment of any year within our recollection. For apparent ecups manqués, England, France, Germany, Russia, and the United States will long remember the year just coming

The Saturday Review thinks the death of Lord Beaconsfield will perhaps henceforth serve as a date for a great change in English policy. In no previous year has the progress of revolution been more distinctly visible. To the public it has been a year of much pain, little satisfaction, and many losses; and a hope that the new year may be a brighter one may this time be expressed with more than ordinary fervour and sincerity.

The Daily Telegraph says :- A truce has been called as regards the old points of home polities. In India there is tranquillity, and in Afghanistan a truce; in the rest of our Empire, outside Ireland, comparative prosperity and complete peace. So closes 1881. Socially, there may have been better, and certainly there have been worse years than that of which we take our final leave to-night. Perhaps it is in the steady development of electricity that 1881 has been scientifically most remark-

The Standard thinks that the old year will be memorable as one of the most lamentable in our domestic annals. It began in gloom, it ends in gloom; and as yet there is no rift in the dark cloud that has overshadowed us. Looking back upon the year as a whole, it offers little in the nature of consolation, and it leaves us with a prospect which is neither hopeful mor encouraging.

The Daily News says :- At home and in our various colonies there is the reality or the prespect of peace. It has been restored in Asia and Africa. The annals of our American and Australasian colonies have the blankness of prosperity and repose. Even in Ireland there are grounds of hope.

PRINCE BISMARCK AND THE POPE.

So far as the rumours about German intervention in the Roman question refer to a projected restoration of the Pope's temporal power by the help of Germany they may be dismissed without further thought. It seems highly probable, however, that Prince Bismarck really has in view an intervention of another kind, and that he has proposed to the Pope and the Italian Government that the position of the former should be regulated by an international agreement, instead of, as now, by an Act of the Italian Parliament. There are obvious reasons which might make a settlement of this kind agreeable to several of the Powers. To the Pope it would restore a freedom of movement and action which he greatly values. Notwithstanding the excuses offered by the Italian Government for their inaction at the time of the removal of the late Pope's body, it is impossible for the Pope to go about Rome as he used to do without running great risk of insult. The police might arrest a 'w rioters after the offence had been committed; but they would not take those large measures of precaution which could alone ensure the Pope against insults being | ffered. If, however, the protection of the Pope's person devolved on the Italian

practical politician-would not wish to outrage the Pope at the cost of embroiling his country with foreign Powers. In return for this security the Pope might give to Italy the very great advantage of a reconciliation between the Government and the Church. The most conservative of forces would no longer be, as it is now, a revolutionary instrument. The Pope would have condoned the seizure of his temporal dominions, and in so doing he would have condoned the similar seizures which were effected at the expense of the Italian secular Princes. The connection between the Church and the principle of Legitimacy would be dissolved; and it would be no longer possible to argue that, as the Pope still denies the justice of the revolution which deprived him of his dominions, he must be understood by parity of reasoning to deny the justice of the revolutions which had subjected those secular Sovereigns to a similar fate. The authoritative upsetting of this theory would bring to the support of the Government a considerable number of Italians who now hold aloof from it. There has been some speculation on the part of the Italian papers as to the possibility of Prince Bismarck's effecting this change without giving offence to France. There is reason to think, how-ever, that the French Government would be only less benefited by it than the Italian Government. An arrangement by which the Pope accepted the loss of his temporal power, and thereby condoned the infliction of similar losses on the Italian Princes, would be extremely distasteful to the French Legitimists. All these are but the subsidiary gains which Prince Bismarck might hope to reap from such an arrangement as has been suggested. His principal gain would be the conciliation of the Catholic party in Prussia and Germany on singularly easy conditions. At present the main difficulty which Prince Bismarck has to meet is the want of any sufficient inducement to Catholics to come to terms with the State. The Prince has been driven to modify the administration of the May Laws by circumstances which make it pretty certain that he will not again attempt to enforce them in their integrity. Consequently, when the German Catholics come to consider whether they shall accept his overtures, and vote as he shall direct, they see no particular reason why they should do so. The concessions the Chancellor has already made to them have been dictated by considerations of self-interest; and there is no reason to fear that they will be withdrawn even if the Catholic party continues to hold itself neutral in parliamentary conflicts. Men seldom feel grateful for the simple cessation of annoyance, and up to this time this is all that the German Catholics have had to thank Prince Bismarck for. But if he were to take the initiative in a transaction which would enable the Pope to come out of the Vatican, to visit the great basilicas, to be present at the great functions, and generally to appear in an attitude of visible triumph over his spiritual adversaries in the city in which he has for ten years lived the life of a recluse, German Catholics would really have something to be thankful for. No lingering love for Legitimist principles would be present to alloy their satisfaction, and their votes would be given with the ardour that befits men who have the opportunity of showing genuine gratitude for a genuine service. Prince Bismarck may not be able to bring about an arrangement by which the immunities of the Pope in his character of Sovereign Pontiff shall be secured by an international instead of a municipal sanction; but he certainly has a very patent interest in effect-

M. PAUL BERT AND THE BISHOPS. The Saturday Review declares that M. Paul Bert is determined that the Church shall not forget what sort of ruler she has over her. The bishops are now to taste in their own persons some of the sweets of that surveillance to which they are supposed to have subjected their clergy:-The Minister has directed one of his sub-

ordinates to obtain from the Prefects minute

ing such an arrangement if it is possible

for him to do so .- St. James's Gazette.

information as to the character, antecedents, and habits of the bishops. M. Bert finds himself inconveniently in advance of his age. Until lately he had probably looked forward to being Minister in that happy future when churches and religions shall be no more; and when, if bishops have to be studied at all, it will be from specimens preserved in spirits, not from the living subject. Fortune has called M. Bert to greatness while this beneficent process is still incomplete. The direction to the Prefects to keep a sharp eye on the bishops, and to subject their words and actions to the kind of scrutiny which a detective policeman brings to bear on a suspected is sufficiently annoying men who, down to a very few years back, were at least as important sonages in their dioceses as the Prefect him-The mere sense of being watched is unpreasant, and to be watched by an equal to whom you have suddenly been made dinate is especially disagreeable. This last feature in the case is carefully brought out by the friends of the Government in the press. They defend M. Castagnary's circular on the ground that it involves no new principle. The point of M. Castagnary's circular lies in the fact that it extends to bishops a kind of inspection which has hitherto been only apolied to the officials responsible to the Prefect. It treats them for the first time as the Prefect's subordinates. Even the motive alleged for the issue of the circular has a sting of its own. The hishops know that vacancies in the higher ranks of the hierarchy are filled up by the Government, but they do not wish to be reminded that their promotion depends on M. Bert's pleasure. This is precisely the kind of reflection that brings their position home to them in the most unpleasant manner possible. M. Gambetta's choice of a Minister of Worship is thus completely justified. He wished to make the clergy pass under the yoke, and while M. Bert is their superior there is no fear that any incident of the process will be excused them

THE SENTENCES FOR BRIBERY.

The Saturday Review anticipated the answer Sir William Harcourt gave to the memorialists on behalf of the persons convicted of bribery. It is possible that severity of punishment may tend to create an artificial public opinion in condemna-

tion of bribery :-For the present, the unexpected sentences which have been passed seem to have produced an opposite effect. Rich and zealous Liberals who, like the corresponding section Government by virtue not of a municipal statute but of an international treaty, the strongly suspect that the application of the support of the nation which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute but of an international treaty, the strongly suspect that the application of the support of the nation which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute but of an international treaty, the strongly suspect that the application of the suppointment of the five resident magistrates and support of the nation which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute to a fund, which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute to a fund, which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute to a fund, which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute to a fund, which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute to a fund, which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute to deliver up their arms by Wednesday next. It also announces the scribed a small sum weekly to a fund, which has excited great indignation. It is stated that a number of workmen had substitute to deliver up their arms by Wednesday next. It also announces the scribed a small sum weekly to a fund, which has excited great indignation. It is a fundamental treaty, the stated that a number of workmen had substitute to deliver up their arms by Wednesday next. It also announces the scribed a small sum weekly to a fund, which has excited great indignation. It is a fundamental treaty the scribed and support of the substitute to deliver up their arms in the continuous treaty the scribed and support of the substitute to deliver up th

money passes through the hands of subordinate agents, who may not be inclined to lose an election for want of a moderate sum. Not a few boroughs are, with more or less success, 'nursed," as it is called, by neighbouring aspirants to parliamentary honours. The constituencies which profit by the continuous liberality of intending candidates are not morally distinguishable from their neighbours who sell themselves for a lump sum. As long as respectable politicians of both parties connive at such practices, it will be difficult to persuade ordinary persons that a distributor of bribes is on the same moral level with a thief or a forger.

MR. HERBERT GLADSTONE ON THE STATE OF IRELAND.

Some of Mr. Herbert Gladstone's statements in his recent speech at Manchester having been challenged by a speaker at a Conservative meeting, a gentleman at Staleybridge called Mr. Gladstone's attention to the subject, and has received a reply, in which Mr. H. Gladstone says :-In answer to your questions, I have to say that for nearly a month I was travelling through the west—county Kerry, Limerick, Clare, and Galway; that I was continually

moving about the country by night, as well as by day; that I was usually alone; that I never had an escort, armed or unarmed; and that my name 'was almost invariably known to the people of the places where I stayed, as my movements were reported almost daily in the local papers. What I said at Manchester about the absolute safety of strangers in Ireland is literally true. The difference in regard to this point between Mr. Croston and myself seems to be merely this-that I, speaking from personal experience, have given a literally accurate account of what a stranger who travels in Ireland may expect to encounter; and that Mr. Croston, without any experience at all, has given to the enlightened Tories of Millbrook his own view (based apparently on a newspaper report), which represents the state of Ireland to be tenfold worse than reality, and which is almost entirely false."

THE IRISH LADIES IN DISTRESS.

The particulars of the work done by the Association for the Relief of Irish Ladies in Distress, as furnished to the Lord Mayor, are interesting but distressing. The recipients of succour obviously find the bread of charity bitter to taste, and it is almost pathetic to notice how they seem to crave for work rather than doleswork that they can do with their own hands, and which, comparatively useless as it may be in many cases, yet brings them money which they fondly fancy is its market value :-

Under this section of their operations the Relief Committee buy materials, and give nen to ma such garments as can subsequently be distributed among infirm and necessitous persons, to whom warm clothing during winter is indispensable. But there are many indigen-ladies in Ireland who are too feeble to undertake even the lightest work, and the Association has to aid them with grants of money or loans directly. Since the foundation of the Association one hundred and sixteen claims have been considered, and grants or loans varying in amount from five to fifty pounds have been made to eighty-nine claimants. Of course, many more cases are awaiting consideration, and how cruelly the ladies in question must be suffering is indi-cated by a letter from an applicant to the Directors of the Fund. She is the widow of a clergyman, and is entitled to twenty pounds: year of rent, and seventy-eight pounds a year on mortgage. During the last eighteen months her income has dwindled away to seven pounds. She has three daughters depending on her, one of them deprived of the use of her limbs through an accident. This poor old lady is too feeble to work, and coninued privation has evidently crushed her pride, because she frankly says that, if assisted, she does I t see how she will ever be able to pay back what is advanced to her Yet hers is only one amongst hundreds of similar cases of destitution caused by the pro mulgation of the "No Rent" doctrine. Manifestly, the only thorough remedy for such suffering is to get in the rents, the non-payment of which has reduced so many innocent and gently-bred women to beggary. In that view every one who subscribes to the Property Defence Fund is also aiding the movement for the Relief of Irish Ladies in Distress; for there would be no distress amongst Irish ladies who are dependent on the returns from land for their slender incomes, if the law were only powerful enough to make the land

SHOULD THE IRISH LANDLORDS RECEIVE COMPENSATION?

yield any return in the shape of rent to those

who own it .- Evening Standard.

The cry is raised, observes the Statist, and will, no doubt, be echoed in Parliament during the coming session, that the Irish landlords should receive compensation for the reduction of rents, and consequent loss of property, which has been entailed upon them by the Land Act. The papers are full of hard cases :-

The Irish landlords affirm that from being rich, in many cases they have become actually impoverished. One landlord, whose case, perhaps, may be taken as typical, writes to the Standard to say that being owner of an estate, the gross rental of which was £4,000 a year. and the net rental, deducting rates, taxes, and other charges, about £2,600, and having charged the estate on the marriage of his sons, to the extent altogether of about £1,600, the margin of income remaining to him, about £1,000 a year, has been swept away by the reduction of about 25 per cent. in his rents. We must hope that, in spite of the outcry now raised, very little more will really be heard of the claim for compensation by Irish landlords. They are entirely out of court. They have no claim as against the community of Ireland; but it is monstrous to suppose that if the people of the United Kingdom make a mistake in the government of one part of the country, they are to compensate the victims of that mistake. It is difficult enough to set bad laws right, without dealing with such claims for compensation. A great deal has been said about the invasion of the rights of property by the Land Act, and the dangerous tendencies of the legislation unless compensation is given; but this argument is also misplaced The Irish tenant is not tempted to disregard the rights of property by anything that has happened. The mischief done to the idea of property in Ireland was not done by the Land Act of the present year, but the long course of legislation which preceded it, and which really confiscated, or attempted to confiscate, for the benefit of a single class, the common rights of property throughout the country. Now that these rights of property are recognized by law, the idea of property will undoubtedly be strengthened in Ireland, and in time there will be social order in that country, in place of the present confusion and anarchy.

IRELAND.

The Dublin Gazette of Friday night contains a number of proclamations under the Peace Preservation Act ordering all persons in the

Cantain Butler, counties of Westmeath, Ros-common, and Leitrim; Hon. Thomas O. Plunkett, county Kerry; Mr. H. A. Blake, county Galway and King's County; Captain Slacke, Waterford and Cork. A reward of £100 is offered for private information which shall lead to the conviction of any of the persons in an armed party who fired shots into several houses in the county Tipperary on the 7th inst.

A shocking affair is reported from Mullingar. On Saturday morning a man in the employ of two sisters named Croghan, living at Irishtown, near Mullingar, left the house on an errand, and on his return found both the sisters shot. No motive for the crime is known at present. A correspondent gives the following account of the crime:—About half-past eight o'clock a tall dark man entered the house of a family named Croghan, consisting of the mother and two daughters. After bidding them good morning he pro-duced a revolver and deliberately shot one of the girls dead, and wounded the other so dangerously that her life is despaired of. He immediately fled. The time selected for the deed was during the absence of the

servant man. The documents found upon Connell, the man who was arrested on Tuesday, are said to contain particulars of plots for the murder of five farmers. Connell is the son of a sergeant in the militia, and has himself been in the army. It is now considered certain that he was the leader in many of the outrages recently committed in the neighbourhood of Millstreet. By some it is thought that the information which led to his arrest was given

by himself. The Dublin police on Thursday night and on Friday searched the shops of certain newsvendors, and seized copies of United Irland, the Irish World, and O'Donovan Rossa's United Irishman. It is stated that the circulation in Ireland of these papers will be prohibited. Detectives also searched the Irish-man office and examined the papers being printed there.

The Westmeath hounds were to have met at Meldrum on Friday, but when the master arrived, accompanied by a small field, a crowd had collected and stopped the hunt. It is alleged that two of the dogs were killed.

At a numerously attended meeting of the subscribers to the Carlow and Highland Hunt at Carlow on Friday, it was unanimously decided that hunting should be discontinued, in consequence of the opposition exhibited in parts on the country.

The Castlefreke harriers, which were maintained by the trustees of the Carbery estate, are to be sold. It is stated that this course has been adopted in consequence of the nonpayment of rent by the tenants and the obstruction of hunting.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, FRIDAY.

The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely and the Hon. Amy Lambart.

Mme. Marie Roze had the honour of singing efore the Queen and the Royal Family in the evening The Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting had

the honour of joining the Royal Circle in the Drawing Room The Hon. Lady Ponsonby and the Misses Ponsonby and Lady Cowell received with in-

Her Majesty walked and drove out with Princess Louise and Prince Leopold this morning. Princess Beatrice rode with the Marquis of

Lorne. Considerable preparations are being made at Bradgate Park, the seat of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, for the visit of the Prince of Wales on the 9th of January. An address from the corporation will be preat the railway station, after which the Prince will probably drive in an open carriage

Sophie Marchioness of Anglesey has arrived at her residence in Portland-place from Denne

The Queen has conferred the honour of knighthood upon Mr. William Patrick Andrew, chairman of the Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi kailway Company.

"CUCKOO" NOTES.

Notwithstanding the fate of the unfortunate Mr. Powell, we find yet another member of Parliament, Mr. Pendarves Vivian, indulging in the dangerous practice of ballooning, and very nearly meeting with a similar fate to that of Mr. Powell. With two skilled aeronauts he ascended the other night from southwest London, the start being delayed by unfavourable weather until 10 p.m. They found themselves in a strong current, which in ten minutes had placed them over North London, the lights below presenting a fairy scene of indescribable beauty. Though over 1,000 feet high, street cries were distinctly audible. Ascending rapidly to 8,000 feet, in an hour they found themselves passing at a tremendous rate over a flat country suitable for de-scending, and they resolved to come down. Gas was let out, and grappling irons dropped, when there was a sharp check and violent jerks, and suddenly they commenced soaring upwards at a frightful pace. The rope of

the grappling irons had broken. The danger of so helpless a position, especially at night, was instantly apparent, and shortly afterwards a renewed descent was made, hoping to run the balloon against some branches of trees. When this was done one got out, and the two, relieved of his weight, were carried upwards with extreme velocity to a height of three miles. Half stunned by the shock, and deaf from the rarification of the air, some time elapsed before a renewed descent was attempted, when, to their horror, they heard the roaring of the sea immediately below them. Fortunately they found themselves approaching the shore from the sea, over which they unconsciously had been sailing, but had in descending come into a landward current. Arrived near the ground they struck not twenty yards from the seashore, and, after dragging several hundred vards, receiving severe concussions from hedge, they simultaneously let go, and the balloon soared aloft, leaving them in darkness and in an unknown country, subsequently discovered to be ten miles from Lowestoft, having reached there in three hours from London.

The Clapham scandal is about to receive a mild treatment at the hands of the Bishop of Rochester, who has appointed a clergyman, named Charlesworth, to the church, for a term of six months, with power to employ a curate. In the meantime, the Rev. Mr. Aubrey Price will have the opportunity of restoring his shattered nerves, and of remarking a few of the most notable events of the past year on a memory, which, up to the present time, has been a perfect blank. The bishop's remedy is not satisfying. The Church is the patient, and something more her vitality in the parizh of St. James's, Clapham. If the charges brought against Mr. Price are proveable, he is amenable to civil law, and his is a case, not for the pompous and costly procedure of an Ecclesiastical Commission, but for the nearest Police-court. Mr. Price is acting unkindly in not releasing his friends from their great concern by taking steps to rebut the charges so unblushingly brought against him in the columns of a con-

temporary. A story is current in the arsenal at Wool-wich which has excited great indignation. It

to take such precautions as they knew to be necessary with a very much better grace. Even an Italian Radical—if he were also a deed, legal expenses to be incurred; but the Cantain Butler, counties of Westmeath, Ros-The money was confided to one of the workmen, and recently the subscribers met, that each might receive his portion. It was cal-culated that the fund should furnish 26s. to each subscriber, but when the subscribers were expecting their treasurer to deliver the money entrusted to him, he rose with the utmost effcontery, and informed that he had not a penny for any of them, having spent the money as it came into his hands. He got a good thrashing from his confrères, but surely this is a matter which those in authority should deal with.

OBITUARY FOR 1881.

The number of noted persons who have died during the year 1881 is not quite so great as in some previous years; but the reigning families of Europe have sustained many losses, the assassination of the Czar in March being followed by the deaths of Prince George of Hesse, the Dowager Queen Amalia of Denmark, Princess Louise of Hesse-Cassel, Prince Peter of Oldenburg, and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg. The ill-fated Prince Pierre Bonaparte also died in the early part of the year; but none of the European Courts went into mourning for him, as most of them did for the murdered President of the United Among the statesmen and politicians who died in the course of the year were Lord Beaconsfield, Baron Haymerle, M. Dufaure, Charles Reed, Lord St. Germains, Mr. E. Miall, and Blanqui, the veteran revolu-tionist; while in the diplomatic service, the principal deaths were those of Count Harry von Arnim, the Marquis de Banneville, and the Marquis de Lavalette-the two latter of whom had been French Ambassadors at Vienna. The legal world has to deplore the deaths of Lord Hatherley, Lord Justices James and Lush, Sir Henry Jackson, and Herr Bluntschli, the eminent professor of international law in Germany. The Church of England has lost Dean Stanley and the Reverend H. Coxe, the librarian of the Bodleian; while the Roman Catholic Church has lost the Cardinal Archbishops of Cambrai, Saragossa, and Vienna, the fiery Archbishop "John of Tuam," and the Prince Archbishop of Breslau. The army and navy have lost in England Lord Airey, Sir George Colley (killed in the Transvaal), and Sir Vincent Eyre; in France General Berthaut, a former Minister of War, and Admiral Roncière le Noury; in Germany General Von der Tann, in Austria Field Marshal Benedek, the defeated of Sadowa; in Spain General Moriones; and in the United States General Burnside. Science is the poorer for the deaths of M. Sainte-Claire Deville and Baron Uchatius, the inventor of the cannon called by his name; while the ranks of literature, art, and the drama have

Leen thinned by the deaths of Mr. Carlyle, M. Littré, M. Emile de Girardin, M. Paul de Saint-Victor, Signor Pietro Cossa, Mariette Bey, Mrs. S. C. Hall, and Mr. S. Hart, R.A. The lyrical and dramatical stage has lost Vieutemps, the violinist, and Mrs. Bateman, Mr. Sothern, and M. Ravel; architecture, Mr. leorge Street and M. Lefuel: and medicine Dr. Hardwicke, the coroner for Middlesex while among the deaths which cannot well be classed with any of the above are those of the Duke of Alva, brother-in-law of the Empress Eugénie and a descendant of the scourge of the Netherlands; the Duc de Cambacérès, a leading Bonapartist; Lady Mildred Hope, Lady Florence Chaplin, Mr. Henry Savile, Baron James de Rothschild; Signor Rubattino, the Italian shipowner; and Mr. W.

l'Anson, the veteran trainer and breeder of racehorses.

THE DUNECHT OUTRAGE .- A STRANGE STORY. A retired physician, resident in London has communicated the following singular story to the Daily Telegraph:—About forty years ago, I was called upon to consult respecting the case of a certain John Crawford, who lived in one of the side streets of Crawford-street, Marylebone. Subsequently, I attended this patient for a month or more, he being a sufferer from a broachial malady which from my first introduction to him was regarded as hopeless. This Crawford was a Scripture-reader, in the employment of a missionary society, and it is unnecessary to add, was a man of small means. With him were his wife, daughter, and son, a lad of fifteen or sixteen, with a countenance indicating firmness and tenacity of will. In my attendance at the bedside of my patient this boy was usually present, listening with close attention and evident interest to our talk. Crawford was very communicative respecting a pedigree and three or four large parch ments, which he seldom omitted to bring forth while I remained with him. At that time the Earldom of Crawford and Balcarres was in abeyance. It was one of the dormant peerages of Scotland which not infrequently give work to the House of Lords; and a cla to the title and estates was reported to be even then gathering documentary evidence wherewith to enforce his plea. I advised

Crawford to relinquish these parch-ments if, as he repeatedly told us, Lord Lindsay was buying up all such writings. But the invariable reply was, " I am John Crawford of Balcarres, with as good a right to this peerage as any man living. If I were not so incapacitated by illness, should myself prosecute the claim. Tho I cannot do this, I shall, for the sake of this boy here "-pointing to his son-" retain these documents, whatever price may be offered for them." The claim had not then been brought before the House of Lords, nor was it publicly heard of till some time after the death of this John Crawford. One re-markable expression, which fixed itself upon my memory, from the earnestness with which it was repeated by Crawford was, "Let him die whenever he may, he will not rest in his grave." The boy who heard these words, again and again, and who, as I have said was an attentive and interested listener, i now if he be in existence, a man of five and-fifty. I have not the smallest knowledge of his career, having entirely lost sight of him when his father died. But the circum-stances are so vividly imprinted on my memory as if they were fresh and recent. Of course I am only theorising when I say that the lad was, by appearance of physiog-nomy, just one of those determined plodders, common enough in a northern race, who setting themselves to a difficult end, rarely fail to reach it. He may be at this time a prosperous merchant; but if this be only vague speculation, it is more to the point to say that those parchments are probably still in existence somewhere; and that, if they can be discovered and authenticated, they may possibly aid in solving this painfu

CHURCH AND CHAPEL ATTENDANCE. The Bishop of Winchester, in a letter to the Times, makes some remarks on the subject of the attempted "religious census of our large towns" from "the point of view of a Churchman." The Bishop observes "that the Church claims to be the National Church, not merely on the ground of numerical majority, but because it was the National Church and the moulder and director of national life in England from the very time when England first became a nation." He admits, however, that "if the National Church has lost her He admits, however, hold on more than half of those who should be her children, she has certainly done much, disastrous as it will be for the nation, to forfeit the confidence and support of the nation

that "nothing is so fallacious as facts, except figures." I say nothing of the supposed "whip," either in 1851 or 1881, which is spoken of as filling chapels on the special Sunday. I have not the least intention of detracting from the zead of Nonconformist ministers or Wesleyan class leaders, or of denying the good which they are doing among those to whom their influence reaches. But, as a matter of fact, their influence reaches more to certain classes of series than to others. more to certain classes of society than to control, and those classes are what we commonly call the middle and lower middle classes. The upper more to certain classes of society than to others; middle and lower middle classes. The upper classes are, with very rare exceptions in-leed, Churchmen. The lower classes are in much larger numbers Churchmen than Dissenters. This latter fact is apparent from the statistics of all public institutions. Hospitals of all kinds, work-houses, gaols, the navy, even the army (though so largely recruited from Ireland), are found to contain Churchmen in the proportion to Dissenters of three to one. So baptisms, marriages, and burials are three to one in church when compared with chapels and registrars' offices. How is burials are three to one in church when compared with chapels and registrars' offices. How is it that in our great towns this does not show itself in church attendance? Probably for two reasons. One is that the country parishes contain the large proportion of Church people, but the manufacturing towns contain the great bulk of the Nonconformists, the causes for which are not far to seek. The other is that, unhappily, in our larger towns the operatives and labouring men have ceased to attend either church or chapel, except in very small proportions—it is said only one in fifty. So it comes to pass that in our larger, especially our manufacturing towns, the church and chapel attendance is chiefly drawn from the midd e classes, among whom, undoubtedly, is the great strength of Dissent.

As to the non-churchgoing working class,

As to the non-churchgoing working class, the picture is undoubtedly a sad one; and there is blame somewhere, probably everywhere. Neither church nor chapel retains Yet we must not conclude that they are all utterly godless. Many reasons have conspired to keep them from public worship. It must be borne in mind too that "all this thorny ground is the very workfield of the

Church: "—
I would not say a word against the work done
by Dissenters, Wesleyans, and Roman Catholics:
but let it be remembered, that where no one else
can reach the Church does reach. This is one
blessing of an endowed Church. It can go to the
poorest. Unendowed bodies can only work, as a
rule, where funds can be raised to pay for work.
Endowed Churches, though endowments often do
not lie in the right places, can yet be comparatively free from the harass of having to seek for
food that may feed the labourers. food that may feed the labourers.

Dr. Brown admits the danger "that the English Church should die of respectability, and confesses to having a lingering love for respectability;" but he adds: — We want mission work of all kinds in our towns and alleys and in our heaths and hills.

THE SERIOUS ASSAULT BY BROTHERS .- Additional particulars have been obtained of the extraordin ry assault committed on Christmas night upo: Mr. C. R. Palmer-Morewood, of Alfreton Hall, Derbyshire, by four of his brothers. The latter were invited with their mother to spend Christmas-day at Alfreton Hall. Mrs. Morewood left at ten o'clock at night, and went to the residence of a younger son-Mr. G. Palmer-Morewood. The brothers and Mr. C. R Palmer-Morewood then went into the smoking-room, where, it is said, they had some spirits of extraordinary quality. Then going into the library, one of them locked the door, and the others placed a document before Mr. Palmer-Morewood, stating that unless he 'signed it, one of them would shoot him, they having drawn lots for the purpose. He refused to sign it, whereupon the four brothers set upon him and committed a most violent and terrible assault. It is said that they pulled off his clothes, dragged him about the floor, and beat him unmercifully with his own boots. Twice he succeeded in ringing the bell for assistance; but one of the brothers refused to allow the butler to enter, telling him they were simply having a bit of fun. About one o'clock in the morning the four young men left. Before doing so one of them told the butler that he had better go and see his master, who was lying on the library floor. On the servant going into the room he found his master lying insensible in a pool of blood, and naked, with the exception of a bit of shirt round his neck and a stocking on his left leg. Medical aid was at once ob-tained, and Mr. Palmer-Morewood was placed in a bath and his wounds examined. It was then found that he h several lacerated wounds on his head ar. ace, a serious wound on one leg, and a severe wound on the back of his head. On the following day his condition appeared to be so critical that additional medical aid from Derby was called, and warrants were issued for the apprehension of the four brothers. They have been liberated on bail, and the case will be heard at Alfreton on Monday, if Mr. Morewood has sufficiently recovered to appear in Court.

TWO BOYS SENTENCED TO PENAL SERVITUDE, -At the Glasgow Circuit Court on Thursday, Robert Crawford and Francis Hill, both about fourteen years of age, telegraph messengers, pleaded guilty to a charge of having stolen or destroyed twenty-five lett rs. Lord Deas, the presiding judge, stated that, notwithstanding the youth of the prisoners, he was bound to deal with the case on the footing that they were old enough to be responsible to the law for what they had done, and that he could pass no sentence less than one of penal servitude He was able, however, to restrict the period to five years, but to no shorter term. tence of five years' penal servitude was accordingly passed.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL .- Whether it is or is not wise to have a Channel tunnel at all is a matter deserving very grave consideration. We are able to get on without a large stand, ing army solely because we are insulated from the Continent of Europe. No one in his senses supposes that if our borders were dispense with conscription, with all its evils. To be weaker than our European neighbours would be to hold out an irresistible temptation to plunderers. A Channel tunnel must be international in its character. We look on the tunnel as a means by which France might invade us; but France will return the compliment, and realising the fact that we might also use it to march on Paris, will take precautions accordingly. We are not so vain as to dispute the possibility of a serious re-verse some day at the hands of a French Given that reverse, is it unreasonable army. to hold that a prominent condition of peace would be the maintenance by France of a lort at this end of the tunnel? It may be said that peace reigns triumphant between England and France. Granted, but the way to be at peace is to be prepared for war; and our readers may rest assured that no Channel tunnel will be made until the French Government and the French people have said their say on the subject. It would be awkward for the shareholders in the Channel Tunnel Company to find the works stopped by insuperable political difficulties after they had made some progress. The attitude adopted by the Government of the United States towards the Panama Canal scheme is very suggestive to those who can draw deductions. Those who are asked for their money ought to have adequate securities from the French and English Governments that they will not interfere to stop the work; and from the pro-moters that a sufficient number of trains can be worked to pay at least £28,000 per mile per annum. Until reasonable proof to this effect has been given, those who buy shares in the Channel Tunnel Company deserve to lose their money, and they will get what they deserve. - Engineer.

THE REPRESENTATION OF MALMESBURY.—A correspondent states that the Conservatives at Malmesbury have asked Mr. R. Dorington, who has fought the neighbouring borough of Stroud three times, to stand in the Conservative interest. Mr. Dorington, who is county chair-man, is such a stron undidate that it is thought Mr. Miller, no has been mentioned as a Liberal candinate, will not offer himself

PARIS, TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1882.

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY. 2, 1882. THE ANGLO-FRENCH RUPTURE. The Anglo-French Treaty negotiations are virtually at an end. We have never been particularly sanguine as to their result, and we have consistently impressed upon the public that the accession of M. Gambetta to power afforded no real guarantee that Sir Charles Dilke's Mission would be successful. The French Premier personally is no doubt in favour of an arrangement being come to, and on purely political grounds he cannot have failed strongly to desire it. But these considerations have proved of no avail, and there is no immediate prospect of the renewal, in any shape, of the compact between the two nations arrived at twenty-one years ago. Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Austin Lee leave Paris to-day. Mr. Crowe remains; but that incident is without hopefulness or significance. The telegram of our Paris Correspondent makes it clear that the Commissioners, even when they agreed finally to differ, had come within sight of a settlement. In other words the miscarriage of the Treaty negotiations is due not to any irreconcileable antagonism on the question of principle, but on points of detail. Thus the French Commissioners agreed to a considerable reduction in the customs on cotton and woollen goods; they also offered a reduction on mixed woollens and on shoddy. But they would not go quite so far as the Representatives of | in Paris, then in New York, where, althe irreducible minimum had been reached, and Sir Charles Dilke showed his judgment in recognising the facts of the situation and in declaring his opinion that the Conference could not be advantageously continued any longer. This is a termination which we may regret, but at which we cannot be surprised. It is, moreover, one which we can well accept with the most perfect equanimity. France had everything to gain by the conclusion of a Treaty; England has little or nothing to lose by the failure to conclude it. Now, however, that the negotiations are, at least for the time, at an end, it may be as well to see exactly how we stand. The exportation of silks from France to England in 1880 represented a sum of rather more than ten millions; the exportation of French wines represented a sum of more than three millions and a quarter. The total of French imports into the United Kingdom of all kinds was just forty-two millions, as compared with thirty-eight millions and a half in the precoding twelvemonths. When the accounts for the year which commenced on Sunday come to be made up they will of course tell a very different tale. It is certainly not England, but France, which will suffer from the record. Silks and clarets are not necessaries, but luxuries. There has been a growing market for them in England; will the same market be found for them anywhere else? It is notorious, too, that a great deal of the wine which is drunk in England as the genuine product of the Bordeaux and Burgundy districts does not come from France at all. Spain is capable of giving us as fair a red wine of moderate quality as France, and it has, as a matter of fact, already given us a much larger allowance of such a wine than many people are aware. The English Govern. ment will not go out of its way to retal ate on France, but it does not reorganise its tariff with Spain, and remove the grounds of the Spanish complaint that the wines of the Peninsula are unjustly subjected to a differential duty in this country. It would be affecta-tion to suppose that the lapse of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty will not affect in some degree the sentiment existing between the two countries. The responsibility rests with France, and if there is any diminution in the cordiality of international feeling, the French people must understand that its cause must not be

NEW YEAR CUSTOMS.

sought on this side of the Channel .-

The wish, "A Happy New Year," expressed either verbally or by card, some faint echo of the ancient custom of seeing the old year out and the new one in, the commencement of a new diary, and perhaps a few good resolutions, are all that mark in Englahd the transition from one year to another. So far as evening is concerned Christmas festivities are not yet concluded, but so far as the day goes work begins as steadily with the New Year as at any other time. Practically, if not morally, a new leaf is turned over, but that is all. A balance is struck, sometimes with severe exactitude and due fulfilment of liabilities, sometimes in the airy and ineffectual manner of the two young men in "Great Expec-'tations." Herbert and Pip, it will be recolllected, got all their numerous bills together, checked them, docketed them, ca talogued them, and then dismissed them fro m their minds after the manner of the Iris h gentleman who wrote his name acro ss a bill of exchange, and, flinging down the pen, exclaimed, "Thank God! that is settled." Morally there is an attempt to turn over a very new leaf indeed. It will vary much in hue according to the mind which resolves upon it. The overworked professional man who is heaping up money, not frem covetousness, but because he cannot escape from the groove of work and has resolves that this New Year shall give | water, and even in the firmament, which | organisation.

him, if not deerstalking, at least a share | is above both. Crime has never been so of a moor, for his work is beginning to tell, and he has experienced that queer sensation known as "not being the man he was." Another, who is not so rich in the minds of high and low, rich the world's goods, reflects with some dis- and poor. Society has become conmay that instead of "getting on," he is just a little worse off than he was twelve months ago, and makes a good resolution to hark back to that "constable" whom he has been perpetually outrunning. One of the easiest resolutions to make and the most difficult to keep is that of rising early in the morning. The season at which the resolution is made is hardly the most favourable for matutinal study. In , in their midst malignant and deadly forces the morning the fires are out, the rooms are cold, and coffee unattainable, so that plenty of excuses can be found for giving up the scheme as impracticable, but a certain satisfaction is felt at having at least made the resolve. And this is all that New Year's Day means in this England, with its quiet manners and cool unobtrusiveness. The old year is dead; God save the new, and send us prosperity. That is all. It is not thus in every country, even of those speaking the English tongue. On the Continent, and especially in France, New Year's Day is the Feast of Gifts. It is not long since the New Year was looked for in Paris with as much anxiety and apprehension as joy, for the Bonaparte who then ruled France was wont to make a noteworthy speech at the formal reception on the first day of the year. Fortunately the peace of Europe no longer hangs on the breath of an absolute ruler, and New Year's Day is restored in France entirely to its ancient programme. In the great English-speaking Republic beyond sea the French method of treating the New Year has long prevailed over that of England. Whether the American New Year is really an amplification of the Scotch is a question which may be left to antiquaries. Perhaps it is a relic of the Puritanism which protested against Christmas as a Pagan and Popish celebration. and chose two holidays instead of one in Thanksgiving and New Year's Days. Christmas was overlooked in the United States till only the other day, when the combined influence of the German population and Charles Dickens's stories revived the nearly extinct Feast Day. Now it meets with due observance of presents and Christmas trees; but the most important social festival is still the first day of the year. There is a national display on the Fourth of July or Independence Day, when there is great noise of fire-crackers and uproar generally, but anything like enjoyment is impossible with the thermometer at 90 deg. in the shade. New Year's Day is essentially a day to be spent, if not land wished. The latter declared that | though the French custom prevails, it is | lively, there was not much solid satisfacwith very considerable modifications. For instance, it would delight the stingy man of the Parisian caricaturists to find that, firstly, he is not obliged to take a present to every house he calls at, and secondly, that he is expected to partake of refreshment at every such dwelling. A few years ago it was the almost invariable custom in every family to furnish forth a table as for a wedding breakfast, near which stood the hostess with her daughters and any other pretty young ladies whom she could persuade to come and help her in what might be called playing at parlour-maids. The house-father and 'the boys" were out visiting, and the ladies remained at their sumptuous table arrayed like Solomon in his glory. For weeks previously there was excitement about the New Year's frocks, which were invariably gorgeous. As callers arrived they paid their respects to the lady of the house, and were then handed over to the younger ladies, who in old-fashioned houses considered it a matter of honour that every one should partake of something, if only a spoonful of chicken salad. or a pickled oyster and a glass of champagne; after which one of the callers-they generally go in pairs-would mention to his companion that they still had thirty or forty calls to make, and they would take their leave, driving off merrily through the snow to their next destination. So great is the demand for carriages in New York on New Year's Day that on the morning itself it is as impossible to hire a decent vehicle as it is in London on the Derby Day. So the callers drove on enjoying themselves very much. Occasionally a slight tendency towards conviviality was visible, but apologists were not wanting. It was a kind of carnival and a festival of mankind on whom for once woman waited as a willing handmaiden. This very free and easy acceptance of the yearly festival is now swiftly passing away, and is already beyond the ken of cultivated people. But the kindly features of the day remain in the United States as they do in France, Scotland, and other countries, except England, where the goodly fashion of renewing friendship annually has yet to take root and blossom

News. AN UNSATISFACTORY RETROSPECT. The spoken or unspoken wish which accompanies the salutation—" A Happy New Year "-exchanged this day between some millions of English men and women will be "May 1882 be an improvement on 1881." Of the political significance and associations of the past twelvemenths there is no need to speak here; let us confine ourselves entirely within the limits of its social and domestic chronicle. It is not that 1881 has been darkened by the shadow of any great national calamity. We have been free from plague, pestilence, and famine. There has been little exceptional distress; there have not been upon a considerable scale any of those stubborn contests between labour and capital which may establish great principles, but which, while they last, involve loss and misery to both sets of combatants; work has been plentiful; wages have been fair; all the necessaries, and some of the luxuries of life have been cheap: the harvest was bounteous; the paralysis which overcame commerce and trade five years ago has disappeared. For all this we should be, and it is to be trusted that we are, duly thankful. Yet the causes of the vague depression already alluded to, and of the sentiment of relief which is as distinct as it is general that we have turned our backs upon the old year are not far to seek. Eighteen hundred and eighty-one has been traversed by an unusual vein of mishaps and catastrophes, many of them of the most deplorable and alarming kind. It has been full of murders and sudden deaths. There e time to spend his earnings on pleasure, have been appalling accidents by land and

forth in bouquets and bonbons.—Daily

audacious and so stealthy. The sense of insecurity of life and property was never so deeply impressed upor scious to an extent it never was before, that its sworn enemies may, on an emergency, prove as powerful as its natural defenders. That the "reign of law" may at any moment temporarily be replaced by a despotism of anarchy. The assassina-tion of the Czar and of the President of the United States forcibly brought home to the English people that there were at work with which no existing agencies are quite adequate to cope. Between these outrages and the murder of Mr. Gold in a first-class railway carriage, there is, of course, no real connection. But when the public is once in an excited and uneasy mood, it is keenly sensible to chance coincidences. The brutal crime of Lefroy was only one of a series. Others equally atrocious have escaped detection. Just as "political" homicides are not, as is plain, deterred by any fear of consequences, so the cutthroats and cut-purses of private life will persist in their courses until they are convinced by experience that the chances in favour of the law and of detection amount to a moral certainty. How is this conviction to be borne in upon them Upon what line is our machinery available for the repression or discovery of crime to be amended or reorganised? On one side are ranged the powers and resources of villany; on the other is the coercive apparatus of civil government. When will the latter be able to prove that it is infallibly adequate to deal with the former? There are other considerations which partially explain the atmosphere of tristesse that has pervaded the past year. Though the condition of the working classes has been, or, for the reasons already specified, ought to have been satisfactory, and even prosperous, the middle and upper classes of the United Kingdom have been more or less under a cloud. The possessors of fixed incomes had every reason to congratulate themselves, for never with reasonable management did a moderate amount of money go so far, and never were the luxuries and ornaments of life -such as wines and pictures-to be picked up so cheaply by those who have known where to search for them. The London season, too, of 1881 was on the whole brilliant. The weather was favourable; town was incessantly full; there were fewer dinner-parties than usual; there were more garden parties and receptions than ever; there was a perfect epidemic of fancy fairs and bazaars. But, though the general effect was bright and tion to be derived from it by the trading community. Never were there so many houses on the books of estate-agents. Proprietors of furnished apartments and of hotels did a brisk business, and were almost the only persons who did not and who had not reason to complain. The truth is that the London season of 1881 was to a great degree conspicuous by the absence from it of a class which has contributed more than any other to the success of the season as an institution—the landed gentry and their families, who, without being plutocrats, have been sufficiently well-to-do, and who have been in the habit of passing at least four months out of the twelve in the metropolis. The inability of landlords on the other side of St. George's Channel to get their rents has not been exclusively an Irish experi-ence. English landlords have suffered severely from the same cause as well. The owners of vast estates in different parts of the kingdom who count their rentals by tens of thousands have not felt the shoe pinch. To them it is almost nothing whether half a dozen of their farms in a single county remain upon their hands unlet. But in the case of smaller proprietors it is quite another matter. To the gentleman who has hitherto received some five or six thousand a year from the land it makes all the difference between competence and poverty if two or three of the largest farms are without tenants. His estate is almost certain to be encumbered; there are charges on it for the benefit of relatives to pay; there are sons at school, at college, or in the army; there are daughters whose education is in the costly process of finishing. Many English gentlemen in this position have been reduced in the past year to practical poverty. In many instances they have had to let their country home; in none have they been able to take the usual house in London. These are gloomy features in the retrospect of 1881, and it would be well if it could confidently be said that all trace of them would disappear as the year which begins to-day advances. Of this at present there is no sign, and so long as this is the case the condition of the community cannot be satisfactory, and the bonds which unite class with class cannot be firm. All will come right in the end; the difficulties will disappear, and the ordeal which we are now experiencing will be forgotten. Meanwhile, it looks very much as if some of the chief elements of which English society consists were being held in solution, and it requires all the optimism that the cheeriest of us can muster to believe that we are yet within sight of the end of the crisis. It cannot be otherwise than the reverse of reassuring to turn from phenomena like these to the more urgent and sensational perils by which we are environed. We have of late not only been supping full of horrors they have been served up to us at every meal, at every hour of the day. It is plain

that in many instances the newest dis-

coveries of science and the latest results

of time are ranging themselves on the side

of the systematic destroyers of human

a new terror to existence; the revolver

has become an every day article of port-

able property. That some fresh restriction

must be placed upon the sale of poisonous

drugs, and on the carrying of firearms, is

one of the lessons which must be drawn

from the domestic events of 1881. Finally,

take the case of the Dunecht body-snatch-

ing. Is this to become a precedent, and

will the theft of corpses grow as common

as the theft of jewels? Then, if the

bodies of the dead are to be stolen, why

should not the living be abducted, and

what is to prevent a cleverly planned and

boldly executed abduction from being a

success? If society is to protect itself

life. The development of toxicology adds

FRANCE AND TUNIS. The Times has received the following

despatches from correspondents :-

TUNIS, SATURDAY. M. Roustan arrived to-day in Tunis, and proceeded at once to the French Residency. He was met at Goletta by General Mussali and another Tunisian functionary, officially representing the Bey. The attempt to organise a demonstration can hardly be said to have been successful, not more than a dozen Frenchmen being present amid the large crowd of Algerian protégés. Some addresses will be presented at a reception to be held to-morrow morning. The year 1881 closes with a very melancholy prospect for the future of this country. The Bey's authority over his subjects has become the merest shadow; his administration is in a state of hopeless confusion; the Tunisian army, with the exception of 50 titular generals and about twice as many colonels, has disappeared, the collection of taxes failed to yield enough to ray the interest on the national debt, and the interior of the Regency is threatened with famine and the pesilence which invariably follows in its wake. The notables of Sfax are still offering in vain 12 per cent. interest on a loan to defray their share of the war indemnity, and the payment of the same contribution elsewhere has entirely ruined a large proportion of the Bedouin tribesmen. Those who know the Arabs assert that the spring will witness a renewed rising on an extensive scale. Although the winter rains have increased the mortality in the hospitals of the Tunisian expeditionary corps and augmented the hardships of the soldiers under canvas, not a regiment can apparently be withdrawn without the risk of a catastrophe. All unity of feeling among the European residents is at an end, and the French colony presents notoriously the aspect of a house divided against itself.

GABES, DEC. 26. On the 21st of December the column Logerot reached Meret, on its way to the Gueroir Duerghama country. Very unex-pectedly the chiefs of most of the frontier tribes came there and tendered their formal submission. Upon this General Logerot returned almost immediately to Gabes. On the 25th of December he set out for Sfax, leaving only half a battalion of soldiers encamped on the seashore here and a small garrison at Ras-el-Oued. The reality and durability o this so-called submission are doubted by all persons acquainted with the state of native eeling in Southern Tunis.

ITALY AND FRANCE. The Rome correspondent of the Times telegraphs:-The Opinione, remarking on the expected arrival of M. Constans in Rome to negotiate, it is said, for Italy's recognition of the French occupation of Tunis, says that M. Gambetta, having to inform the Chamber in February next how he intends to unravel the tangled Tunisian skein, seeks to include Italy in that consent, which he hopes will be universal, inasmuch as England will probably yield as regards Tunis if she is supported in Egypt and receives besides a good premium as regards the duties on her cotton and woollen goods. It is not possible in so delicate a subject to conjecture what kind of an arrangement M. Gambetta dreams of making with Italy, but, whatever it may be, it should be considered with friendly attention, if it is of a serious character and not a vain makeshift and if it does not involve Italy in possible Tunisian adventures or bind her to France. The only honest course to follow would be to re-establish the authority of the Bey, to reinstate him in the government of his cities and to withdraw the French army immediately the insurrection is quelled. It is clear that quiet would be restored as soon as the Arabs felt the curb of the ancient authority, for they detest foreign tyranny, and their hatred is increased by religious fanaticism in addition to their sentiments of nationality. The Opinione thinks, however, that it would be dillicult for M. Gambetta to adopt this radical solution. It would offend the mistaken amour propre of the French, and besides, if M. Roustan returns to Tunis, it is clear that M. Gambetta

has not the courage to make the least reparation. Rejecting, therefore, this hypothesis, it may be that M. Gambetta, while maintaining the French troops at some of the principal points, thinks of creating a Colonial army and a mixed Ministry like that by which Egypt is governed and in which Italy would have one or more Ministers. This idea the Opinione also rejects as being too optimist, but repeats that whatever offer M. Gambetta makes for Italy's recognition of the Bardo Treaty should be cordially examined, subject to two well understood preliminary condi-tions. First, that Italy's liberty of action should be bound in no way, nor should any right be given to France to think herself offended or betrayed by Italy strengthening her friendly ties with Austria and Germany and concluding, as the Opinione hopes, ar alliance with those countries. On this point the Ministers must make themselves clearly understood beyond the possibility of misin-terpretation. The second condition is that Italy cannot enter upon the discussion of the recognition of the Bardo Treaty if the new It may now be stated with confidence that Ali Nizam's mission has proved so far sucarrangements have only the semblance of something new and worthy of Italy's acceptance. "We were insulted and injured in cessful that the good-will, and, to a certain our vital interests, and it would be difficul to say whether the insult or the injury was

THE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS WITH

the greater. We can remain silent and for-

get, but our consent must not be asked unless

some reparation for the wrong inflicted upon

The Paris correspondent of the Standard telegraphed on Sunday night:— At yesterday's meeting of the English and French Commercial Treaty Commission, at which all the Commissioners on either side were present, the concessions privately mentioned by M. Gambetta to Sir Charles Dilke, at their interview on Wednesday, were for-mally and officially tendered. These consisted in certain further inconsiderable abatements upon the Customs on cottons and woollens. As to cottons, the French are willing to take something less upon fine yarns, and the subdivision of cotton tissues forming the heavier class of goods. With upon mixed woollens, and upon a new category, consisting of a material largely made up of shoddy. As these propositions did not reach the minimum fixed upon by the English Commission, they were at once and finally

Under these circumstances, a continuation of the conferences would be obviously useless. Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. Austin Lee, and the ether Commissioners, excepting Mr. Crowe, who, it was arranged, should remain for a few days, will therefore go home again to-

The position now is that, unless the French Government shortly see their way to act in a more liberal spirit, there is no prospect of the Treaty so long looked forward to being real-ised, and the anticipations upon the subject which were based upon the accession of the Gambetta Ministry seem doomed to disap-

INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN. The Calcutta correspondent of the Times

sufficiently against not only existing but against as yet undeveloped varieties of crime, it is manifest that it must resort to an entirely novel kind of preventive organisation.—Observer.

The Viceroy, accompanied by the Chief Commissioner of Burmah, left Rangoon on Monday last, and arrived at Moulmein on the following day. The two days spent there were chiefly occupied in sightseeing and sight telegraphed on Sunday :—

receiving deputations of various classes of the community. In answering their addresses, the Viceroy expressed the pleasure he had derived from his visit to Burmah and his gratification at finding the province so pros-perous. The timber merchants called attention to the grievance of a heavy ad valorem duty on the timber grown across the frontier and floated down to Moulmein. Lord Ripon promised to reduce the duty from 7 to 1 per cent. The lawyers urged the establishment of a High Court for British Burmah, and were told that the question was under consideration. The Viceregal party left Moulmein on Thursday, and are expected to

arrive here to-morrow.

Baroda was last week the scene of great festivities in connection with the investiture of the young Gaikwar. The actual ceremony of investiture took place on Wednesday, and was performed by the Governor of Bombay, as the representative of the Viceroy. Sir James Fergusson, after placing the young Prince on the throne, addressed him at some length, The continuance of the dynasty of Baroda was, he said, a fresh proof of the will of the Empress that the native States should be preserved in their integrity and independence. Everything promised his Highness a pros-perous and happy life, but the duration and reality of that happiness would greatly depend on his appreciation of its conditions and uses. If he called to his councils true and skilful statesmen, and if he was always careful to subordinate his own gratification to the good of his people, then he would be loved and respected by his subjects and would ever enjoy the Imperial favour. The Gaikwar read a reply in English, in which he expressed his gratitude for all that the British Government had done for his State and himself. His especial acknowledgments were due to the British Resident, Mr. Melvill, and his predecessor, Sir Richard Meade, and also to the Prime Minister, Rajah Madhava Rao. He would pursue a simple and solid programme; he would always feel and manifest his sincere loyalty to the Empress of India, and would earnestly strive for the good of his State. In the evening a banquet was given to 286 guests. The young Prince, who has now been invested with sovereign power, is a distant relation of the Baroda Royal Family. After the deposition of the notorious Mulhar Rao, about seven years ago, he was selected for the vacant throne, and was adopted by Jamma Bai, widow of Mulhar Rao's prede-cessor, Khandi Rao. He has been carefully

conduct the Government with the aid of the Dewan and a council of four of the other principal Ministers. The Ameer arrived at Cabul on the 16th of last month. He was, it is said, detained a short time back by illness at Ghazni. He seems to have found the capital quiet. The State prisoners, Sirdars Mahomed Jan and Afzul Khan, have not yet been released, but it is reported that the Ameer has graciously received their younger brothers, Sultan Mahomed Khan and Hamed Khan, who came to

educated under the direction of the British

Resident, and during his minority Baroda has

been admirably administered by one of the ablest of native statesmen, Sir Madhava Rao.

He has now announced that he proposes to

make their submission A Lahore paper states that the Ameer inpreparations for the journey are already being made at Jellalabad and other places on the road. It adds that he will be received by the Viceroy in a grand durbar at Lahore or balla. This rumour, however, is probably premature, although it is not unlikely that he may come to India when Afghanistan is more

Sirdar Abdul Rasul Khan, the new Governor of Candahar, has arrived at that place, and has been received with great ceremony. He has the reputation of having done well in his former government—that of Jellalabad.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND EGYPT.

The Paris correspondent of the Times hears that France and England are agreed on sending the Khedive a joint or identical Note announcing that in the event of tranquillity being disturbed or his own authority overturned they are prepared to give him effective support to restore order and protect his authority by material co-operation. They have, of course, the correspondent goes on to observe, previously agreed on the mode of procedure in such a case and the respective share of each of them. This resolution is the logical result of their situation in Egypt and tends to put an end to the dangerous state of affairs, to make the Khedive recover his energy, to withdraw him from the suggestions and influence of Turkey, and to avoid the risk of interference by other Powers. It would evidently have been better had the agents of the two protecting Powers striven to free Egypt from the necessity of resorting to foreign protection; but it being so urgent to check at once and put a stop to recent mutinous tendencies, the decision arrived at is manifestly the best adapted to the exigen-

TURKISH ENVOYS IN VIENNA. The Daily Telegraph has received the following despatch, dated Sunday night, from its Vienna correspondent :-

extent, the protection of Austria and Germany have been definitively secured for Turkey. In consequence of the reception given in Vienna to the Ottoman envoys the Sultan has finally decided to abandon the protest against the introduction of military conscription in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which, although repeatedly postponed, was on the point of being issued when the Turkish Mission arrived in Berlin. There Prince Bismarck gave them to understand that in the East Germany and Austria had common interests, and that anything done to the detriment of Austria must indirectly affect Germany. It was further ascertained that, without estab-lishing a cordial understanding with Vienna, they were not likely to obtain support and assistance for the Sultan from Berlin. Ali Nizami's main task here is considered to lie in endeavouring, together with the Turkish Ambassador, to remove some minor subjects of difference existing between the Austrian Government and the Porte. Having achieved that, an entente cordials follows as a matter of course, being imperiously dictated by mutual interests. Although I have no hesitation in asserting that a written agreement has not been drawn up either here or in Berlin, yet the importance of what has been done ought not to be under-rated. As matters stand at present between Turkey and the two Empires, the conclusion of an effective alliance would be merely a question of form. Everything is ready for it, and with Prussian officers at the head of the Turkish army administration, a military convention could be prepared for signature at a few hours' notice. The preponderance of the Western Powers at Constantinople is at an end. The emancipation of the Sultan from their tutelary influence is a fait accompti. To-day's semi-official Fremdemblatt publishes another communique referring to the Ottoman special mission at present in Vienna. It seems that the Berlin National Zeitung stated last week that M. Gambetta had presented his thanks to Prince Bismarck for advising Turkey to treat the Tunis question directly with France, so as to be able to curtail the

costly occupation of Tripoli; and, further, that an understanding existed between Germany, Austria, Russia, and Italy for renewing

the European concert in case of a catastrophe in

bility for its accuracy to the National Zeitung On the other hand, respecting the renewal of the European concert in case of a catastrophe in Egypt, the Powers mentioned agree in considering Egyptian affairs as an integral part of the Eastern question, only to be settled by the forum of Europe. In our opinion that is so clear of itself that no explanation is required." So far the Fremdemblatt. Whether it is quite so clear to everybody as to require no explanation that Egyptian affairs form an integral part of the Eastern question remains to be seen. But the same heory was put forward by the Austrian and German Government press on every available opportunity long before Ali Nizami came out on his mission. There is some question of sending out another Austrian military mission

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE " DAILY NEWS.") The Queen has approved the appointment of Sir Henry Bulwer, K.C.M.G., to be Governor of Natal. Sir Henry Bulwer having already served as Lieutenat-Governor of Natal for upwards of five years will probably not hold his present appointment for more

than two years. We understand that the Cabinet Councils summoned for this week will be held on Thursday and Friday next, January 5th and

Mr. Gladstone is expected to return to town from Hawarden in the course of the present week for the Cabinet Councils which have been summoned, and it is believed that he will not again leave London before the Par-

The Education Department is now engaged in carefully examining the suggestions which have been made by the deputations that have recently waited upon Lord Spencer and Mr. Mundella at the Privy Council Office, and the result of its deliberations will be seen hereafter in some modification of the new Education code. Mr. Mundella is about to pay a

brief visit to Lord Spencer at Althorp.

Some time ago it was reported from India that a military expedition against the Abors —a frontier tribe—was being organised, and that war would probably ensue. We learn that the difficulties with this tribe are likely to be settled, without recourse being had to

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, SATURDAY. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out esterday afternoon, attended by the Hon. Victoria Baillie; and her Majesty walked this morning with Princess Beatrice.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely. Mr. F. O. Adams, C.B., arrived at Osborne yesterday, and kissed hands on his appointment as Mi-nister at Berne. Her Majesty's dinner party pester at Berns. Her majesty's uniner party yesterday included their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, the Marquis of Lorne, the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry and the Hon. Lady Ponsonby and Miss Ponsonby, Lieutenant General Sir Samuel Browns K C P. John Carstairs M'Neill, K.C.M.G. The Queen, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, and the Marquis of Lorne attended Divine service at Whippingham Church this morning. The Rev. Canon Prothero, M.A., assisted by the Rev. Canon Fleming, B.D. (vicar of St. Michael's, Chestersquare, London, and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen), officiated. The Rev. Canon Fleming preached the sermon. The Dowager Marchioness of Ely and Lieut -General Gardiner were in attendance upon her Majesty,

A Royal meet of the West Norfolk Hunt took place on Saturday on the lawn in front of Sandringham House, where the master, Mr. Anthony Hamond, and the principal members of the hunt were hospitably received by their Royal Highnesses. There was a large attendance of the aristocracy of the county and district. Their Royal Highnesses with the hounds.

The Marquis of Abergavenny returned on Saturday from a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales at Sandringham. Viscount and Viscountess Holmesdale have

een entertaining the Italian Ambassador and Marchioness de Val Dora, the Spanish Minister, the Swedish Minister, the Netherlands Minister, and Count Dimitri de Bylandt, General Sir James Airey, K.C.B., Major-General the Hon. J. J. Bourke, the Hon. R. Harris Temple, Mr. Oyanne, Mr. Rawson, Mr. Prosper Sainton, and Miss Newton at Riddlesworth Hall, Thetford, during Christ-

Lord Houghton has left England for Egypt. His lordship will be abroad two months.

The Morning Post understands that a mariage has been arranged between Mr. Uthred Hay Dunbar, eldest son of Sir William Dun-bar, Bart., of Mochrum, Wigtownshire, and Miss Grant, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles T. C. Grant, of Kilgraston, Perthshire, and granddaughter of the late Mr. and Lady Lucy Grant. The marriage will take place

Hon. Sir Richard Malins, P.C., lately one of the Vice-Chancellors of England, and who only retired from the judicial bench in the nonth of March last, expired on Friday last, after a very short illness, while on a visit at the residence of her brother-in-law, Mr. James Dickinson, Q.C., barrister of Lincoln's-James Dickinson, Q.C., barrister of Lincoln's-inn, at Burnham Grove, near Slough, Bucks, The deceased lady, the eldest daughter of the late Rev. Arthur Farwell, rector of St. Martin's, Cornwall, was born in 1804, and was therefore in the 78th year of her age. She was married in 1831 to Mr. Malins, who received the honour of knighthood in 1867. their union, it will be perceived, thus having existed for the lengthened period of over half

THE DRAMA.

ADELPHI THEATRE. Those who only know Mr. Henry Pettitt as writer of what may be called mechanical melodrama, in which sensational effects, daring complications, and elaborate stage carpentry are the first considerations, and story and dialogue subsidiary conditions, will be agreeably surprised (says the Observer) to find that a young dramatist who has hitherto succeeded because he supplied the capricious demand of the time for that which is thrilling and exciting, has really in him the qualities of a dramatist in a more artistic acceptation of the term. The production on Saturday night of his new drama, Taken from Life, with a success which almost amounted to a with a success which almost amounted to a triumph—so loud were the plaudits and so spontaneous the enthusiasm—proved beyond doubt that we have amongst the few playwrights who supply the London stage a writer capable of investing sensationalism with motive and human interest, capable of telling a story without exaggeration, and in the forcible language of earnestness, sincerity, and natural emotion. The story opens with and natural emotion. The story opens with a delightful rural picture representing the house and grounds of John Denby, a country gentleman, who has got into difficulties through speculating on the turf, being guided thereto by his evil genius, one Philip Radley, an adventurer, of racing proclivities. John Denby has a pretty sister, who is secretly beloved by Walter Lee, a young and penniless artist, of gentle birth and noble instincts, and on this young lady Radley also, who is a man unable to gloss over with wealth the very apparent vulgarity of his origin, casts an amorous eye. Radley is striving for a position in society, and endeavours to induce Denby to accept him as a brother-in-law, but Denby resents the idea till a threatened exposure of his FRANCE—A single journal, 9 sous; 1 month, 11fr.; 3 months, 32fr.; 6 months, 62fr.; a year, 120fr. EUROPE, UNITED STATES, COLONIES— A single journal, 9 sous; 33fr.; 64fr.; 125fr. INDIA, CHINA, THE COLONIES-£1 12s. 0d.;

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 2-3, 1882.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH TREATY. Probably the political results of the anticipated failure of the Treaty negociations will be greater in France than in England. Mr. Gladstone, devoted, as he is known to be, to Free Trade and to international peace, will gain rather than lose by the attitude of his negotiators. It will be seen that he knows how to be firm, and that he is resolved to make no further concessions even for the sake of that entente cordiale, a regard for which he inherits from his old leader Lord Aberdeen. There is little likelihood that any taunts will be addressed to our Minister for a result which no reasonable concession on his part could avert. In France the scattered and discordant Opposition are not likely to be so reticent. Many shades of journalists, from the purest Legitimist to the deepest "Red," will be delighted to characterise this as another of M. Gambetta's "failures," and it will certainly be awkward that negociations which hung fire because of his expected accession should collapse altogether almost as soon as he takes the reins. French trade and speculation are remarkably sensitive, and the fear of a war of tariffs will certainly arise. For the two countries will recover their freedom, and will stand in the fiscal position they occupied when Mr. Cobden had his first inter-There is, how view with Napoleon III. ever, very little chance of our returning to the tariff of 1359; for we have gone long beyond the elementary idea that a nation is rich the more it shuts out products from abroad. In 1860, with a few limited exceptions, Mr. Gladstone abolished totally all duties upon all imported manufactures. "There will be," he said, "a sweep summary, entire, and absolute, of all such goods from the British tariff." That change was final; there is not the remotest chance that under any idea of retaliation we shall re-impose a single item of the taxes on imports then removed. As regards, however, the change in the wine duties effected in 1860, in accordance with the Treaty, not only shall we be released from the obligations of that instrument, but it would be quite practicable to modify rather than reverse our proceedings twenty-one years ago. It must be rememberd that at that time we not only reduced the wine duty, but adopted a sliding scale with reference to alcoholic strength. This was a distinct concession to France. Just as our Bradford and Manchester manufacturers desire ad valorem duties because they can beat the world in low-priced goods, the winegrowers of the South of France wished for an alcoholic scale because in cheap "weak" wines they are unrivalled. As an equal, or anything like an equal, tariff on all "cottons" or "woollens" taken in the mass shuts out our coarser goods, so a fixed duty on wine as wine operates, in favour of the stronger and dearer liquors of Spain and Portugal, and proportionately against the cheap vintages of the Gironde. The recovery of our liberty as regards wine would enable the English Government to make changes not in the slightest degree opposed to the principles of Free Trade, but still operating andirectly to the disadvantage of the French greevers. If all wines are admitted at a fixed duty per gallon without reference to strength, the dearer and more alcoholic liquors of Spain will gain in competition with the cheaper wines of France now admitted at a reduced duty. We shall be perfectly free either to level up or to level As Mr. Chamberlain said last August, "If the Treaty negotiations with France should break down, the English Government would be perfectly justified in dealing with the wine and spirit duties as they thought best for the interests of the country." He also pointed out that the duty on these articles was " partly fiscal and partly moral," so that, quite independent of revenue considerations, we might raise the tariff. At present the dutyvaried as regards the degrees of proof spirit-practically admits nearly all French clarets at a shilling a gallon, and imposes on all sherries and ports two and six-pence a gallon at least. Were we to raise the lower duty we should sensibly diminish the export of French wine to England; the cheaper clarets could not pay half a crown a gallon and be sold here at their present rate. Is M Gambetta prepared to face the discontent of the South, the very districts that produce not only the greatest quantities of wine, but the fieriest politicians, as the annals of the country for three generations abundantly attest? Then, as regards spirits, in 1859 we levied a duty on their import of fifteen shillings a gallon; we now levy a little over ten shillings a gallon. Were we to revert to the tariff of twenty-one years ago as regards all alcoholic beverages Mr. Gladstone would be supported by the advocates of temperance, by the friends of British industry, and by men of all shades of politics. "We don't want to fight," but if driven to retaliation we should be united as one man. It will be for the French to consider whether for the sake of

a minority of manufacturers they will im-peril a commerce which has advanced

from fourteen millions a year of French

products sold to England before the Treaty

to an annual average of forty-two millions

countries is to be regretted. France especially has much to apprehend from isolation. She is not in the position in which she stood in 1860, when the Emperor Napoleon, victor in two great wars. had raised her to a commanding though dangerous eminence. Then no Germany existed to dispute with her the supremacy of Europe, and Russia and Austria had not only felt her power but were suitors for her alliance. At present she feels the results of 1870 in every direction, and England is the only Great Power on whose friendly feeling she can securely count. The real interests of the two countries are not opposed in any direction, and in Egypt both have a distinct gain in maintaining the status quo and in agreeing to exclude more or less all other European influence. If, however, the spirit which suggested and still sustains the Tunis expedition, and which has animated the negotiators in Paris last week, continues to prevail, English policy will suffer an inevitable change. We shall be drawn towards Germany, and Austria, and Italy, to the ultimate isolation of France. She, not we, would suffer most were Egypt to glide from under its present dual into a new international Protectorate, and in anything like a general Council of States she would find herself "severely alone." The policy of expansion and adventure that suited France for a time under the two Empires seems greatly out of place now. Europe is very different from what it was in 1811 or 1860. France itself is quite as strong, if not stronger, but her rivals have augmented their powers far beyond the proportion of her advance.-Daily Telegraph.

THE LADIES' LAND LEAGUE AND THE GOVERNMENT.

The Government have at last arrested three or four of the members of the Ladies' Land League. There was no alternative. unless the Irish Executive was prepared to stultify itself in the opinion of the public on both sides of St. George's Channel. The Ladies' Land League was declared illegal, and was, therefore, ipso facto sup-pressed ten days ago. Miss Parnell and the other members of the seditious Sisterhood defied the Proclamation, and when they did not ignore it, noticed it only to denounce it. On Sunday they held a meeting in Dublin avowedly as a challenge to the Government, and it was publicly stated that similar assemblages of all the Branches of the Association would take place on every Sunday "as a protest against the disposition of the police to make laws according to their own fancy." This left the Government no option. When men ostentatiously enrol themselves in the lists of the party hostile to law and order, there is only one rule which those who are responsible for the enforcement of order and law can observe. The Executive in matters of this kind can no more be a respecter of sex than of persons. An agitation led by revolutionary Amazons is as perilous a threat to the public peace as one the promoters of which are the wearers of frock coats or corduroy jackets. The Pétroleuses did more mischief than the Pétroleurs, and when women deliberately unsex themselves for political or any other reasons, they can neither claim nor receive much sentimental consideration. The lady Land Leaguers had fair warning, and if there is a fault to be found with the Government it is not that they have acted too quickly, but that they did not give some unmistakeable sign of their resolution to act a little earlier. This, indeed, is the error which Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet has committed too often. It has deliberated too long: it has carried out its resolutions too late. Ireland is no suitable field for the display of Fabian tactics. The Government were perfectly free to choose their own opportunity. If, immediately after the circular declaring the Ladies' Land League illegal had been formally defied by Miss Parnell, the authorities had unmistakeably shown their determination not to allow those who mocked and disobeyed the law to go unpunished, it is probable that the present disagreeable necessity would not have been forced upon them. The Lady Leaguers presumed upon the hesitation of the Executive, and the repeated indecision of the Government in the past justified their doing so. Hence it is that we are witnessing a new illustration of a familiar truth. The consequence of the failure to renew the Peace Preservation Act was the strongest Coercion Act known for half a century, and the wholesale arrest of Suspects; the consequence of Miss Parnell's epreciation of the vigorous intentions of the Government is the committal of several ladies to prison who were probably never serious competitors for the crown of martyrdom.-Standard.

THE ROMAN QUESTION.

THE RUMOURED NEGOTIATIONS. The Vienna correspondent of the Stan-

tard telegraphed on Monday night :-The Papal Nuncio, Monsignore Vanutelli, to whom I made a New Year's visit to-day, commented, in the course of conversation upon the Roman Question, referring especially to the articles in the Diritto and the statements made in the semi-official German

His Excellency said that he knew nothing of the alleged negotiations concerning the position of the Pope, beyond the unwarranted rumours which had found their way into print. If there had been any substantial basis for these rumours he would have heard of them, seeing that the Court of Vienna was friendly to the Vatican; but nothing had reached him, either from the Court of Vienna or from Rome, which could justify the irritation manifested by the Diritto on the subject or which could be considered as a substantial fact. "I believe," said the Monsignore, "that nobody here knows more about the matter than myself. The question is, no doubt, a natural one, but up to the present, though perhaps ideas and intentions exist in regard to it, these have not yet been translated into action. I have heard, however. continued the Monsignore, "from friends in Rome, and I repeat what they said quite unofficially, that plans have been broached for dealing with the difficulty in which, since 1870, both Italy and the Pope have been

I remarked that the Law of Guarantees was intended to solve this difficult problem. The Nuncio answered, "That is doubtful. I had," said he, "a conversation recently upon this subject with one of my colleagues who knows Italy perfectly well, and also the general drift of Italian politics. The substance of this conversation," added the Monsignore, "may interest you. My colleague observed that there does not exist in Italy during the last few years. On international grounds generally anything that diminishes cordiality between the two

the occupation of Rome, Italy could choose her allies freely, as becomes an independent State. Now, being mixed up with the Papal Question, she must necessarily suffer when-ever any dispute arises in which the Roman Church is concerned. Her alliances depend more or loss upon the good or ill will of the Powers towards the Pope. This would no longer be the case if the Pope were in possession of an independent territory. Only then would Italy become a really powerful State. 'It has been urged,' said my colleague, 'that this could only be brought about after a war; but the idea is erroneous. Italian statesmen fully appreciate the nature of the difficulty and the risk of undoing what has already been done, more especially as the necessity of obtaining Rome as the capital of Italy had, before the occupation in 1870, become the watchword of the Italian Revolutionists. These, perhaps, will soon have other watchwords, aimed against the maintenance of existing institutions. A war, whether successful or otherwise, could hardly effect a satis-factory change. The end could be much better achieved by diplomatic pressure, since the Revolutionists would hardly venture to face the whole of Europe. At the same time, Italian Statesmen, acting under the pressure of necessity, would speedily find a means of solving the problem in a manner that would equally benefit the Pope, the Church, the dynasty, and Italy herself, who would then be

who was the series of the seri tion between the Church and Italy?" answered, "I have no authority to speak upon the matter, and should hardly like to give an opinion as a representative of the Church. I asked the Monsignore what he thought about the report to the effect that the Pope should receive Rome with a strip of territory extending as far as Civita Vecchia. " cannot," he replied, "express my own opinion but in influential political circles this solution would be considered satisfactory, if it could be arrived at by means of friendly understanding It is said in these circles that the Pope could only consider himself free when he could only consider himself free without crossing the territory of another Sovereign; but even this enclosure might form part of the Kingdom of Italy, provided that the Pope was able to exercise Sovereign authority therein. Italy could maintain the administration of the territory, acting in the Pope's name, levying the taxes and customs duties, exercising police super-vision as in other parts of Italy, and even keeping troops there, on the understanding that they were not there for the purpose of watching or molesting the Pope, but simply protecting him against foreign enemies, as the French troops didduring their occupation.

"But does your Excellency," I inquired, "think it possible to achieve this result?" The Monsignore answered, "I am not sufficiently well acquainted with the opinions of the leading Italian statesmen; but, being an Italian myself, I can only wish that some friendly understanding may be brought about that will satisfy both parties, thereby retoring the greatness of the Church and a the same time securing the freedom of Italy

a manner not hitherto experienced. I asked the Monsignore if there had not been some pourparlers on that subject when King Humbert was in Vienna. "I heard nothing," replied the Nuncio, "not having been here at the time; but Cardinal Haynald told me how extremely gracious the King and Queen were towards him. The Queen kissed his hands with devotion, thereby showing the reverence of the Royal family for the Church and her representatives. This, however," added the Monsignore, "is no novelty." The conversation then turned upon other topics.

PROGRAMME OF THE NATIONAL PARTY OF EGYPT.

The Syed Ahmed Bey Arabi sends to the Times the following exposition of the views and purposes of the party of which he has become the leader :-

1. The National party of Egypt accept the existing relations of Egypt with the Porte as the basis of their movement. That is to say, they acknowledge the Sultan Abdul Hamid Khan as their Suzerain and Lord and as actual Caliph or head of the Mussulman religion; nor do they propose, while his Empire stands, to alter this relationship. They admit the right of the Porte to the tribute fixed by law and to military assistance in case of foreign war. At the same time, they are determined to defend their national rights and privileges, and to oppose by every means in their power the attempts of those who would reduce Egypt again to the condition of a Turkish Pashalik. They trust in the protecting Powers of Europe, and especially in England, to continue their guarantee of Egypt's administrative independence.

2. The National party express their loyal allegiance to the person of the reigning Khe-They will continue to support Mohammed Tewfik's authority so long as he shall rule in accordance with justice and the law, and in fulfilment of his promises made to the people of Egypt in September, 1881. They declare, however, their intention to permit no renewal of that despotic reign of injustice which Egypt has so often witnessed, and to insist upon the exact execution of his promise of governing with a Council of Deputies (Mejlis Showra en Mawab) and giving the country freedom. They invite his Highness Mohammed Tewfik to act honestly by them in these matters, promising him their cordial help; but they warn him against listening to those who would persuade him to continue his despotic power, to betray their national rights,

elude his promises. The National party fully recognize the services rendered to Egypt by the Governments of England and of France, and they are aware that all freedom and justice they have obtained in the past have been due to them. For this they tender them their thanks. They recognize the European Control as a necessity of their financial position and the present continuance of it as the best guarantee of their prosperity. They declare their entire acceptance of the foreign debt as a matter of national honour-this although they know that it was incurred not for Egypt's benefit, but in the private interests of a dishonest and irresponsible ruler; and they are ready to assist the Controllers in discharging the full national obligations. They look, nevertheless, upon the existing order of things as in its nature temporary, and avow it as their hope gradually to redeem the country out of the hands of its creditors. Their object is some day to see Egypt entirely in Egyptian hands. Also, they are not blind to the imperfections of the Control, which they are ready to point out. They know that many abuses are committed by those employed by it, whether Europeans or others. They see some of there incapable, others dishonest, others too highly paid. They know that many offices, now held by strangers, would be better discharged by Egyptians and at a fifth of the cost; and they believe there is still much waste and much injustice. They cannot understand that Europeans living in the land should remain for ever exempt from the general taxation or from obedience to the general law. The National party do not, however, propose to remedy these evils by any violent action; only they would protest against their unchecked continuance. They yould have the Governments of France and England consider that, having taken the control of their finances out of the hands of the Egyptians, they are responsible for their prosperity, and are bound to see that efficient t persons only are employed by

4. The National party disclaim all connexion with those who, in the interest of Powers jealous of Egypt's independence, seek to trouble the peace of the country—and there are many such—or with those who find their private advantage in disturbance. At the same time they are aware that a merely passive attitude will not secure them liberty in a land which is still ruled by a class to whom liberty is hateful. The silence of the people made Ismail Pacha's rule possible in Egypt, and silence now would leave their hope of political liberty unfulfilled. The Egyptians have learnt in the last few years what freedom means, and they are resolved to complete their national education. This they look to find in the Mejlis Showra just assembling, in a fair measure of freedom for the Press, and in the growth of knowledge among all classes of the people. They kuow, however, that none of these means of education can be secured except by the firm attitude of the National leaders. The Egyptian Assembly may be cajoled or frightened into silence, as at Constantinople; the Press may be used as an instrument against them; and the sources of instruction be cut off. It is for this reason and no other that the National party has confided its interests at the present time to the army, believing them to be the only power in the country able and willing to protect its growing liberties. It is not, however, in the plans of the party that this state of things shall continue, and as soon as the people shall have established their rights securely the army will abandon its present political attitude. In this the military leaders fully concur. They trust that on the assembling of the Nawab their further interference in affairs of State may be unnecessary. But for the present they will continue to perform their duty as the armed guardians of the unarmed people. Such being their position, they hold it imperative that their force shall be maintained efficient and their complement made up to the full number of 18,000 men. They trust that the European Control will keep this necessity in

view when considering the army estimates. 5. The National party of Egypt are political, not a religious party. They include within their ranks men of various races and various creeds. They are principally Mahomedans, because nine-tenths of the Egyptians are Mahomedans; but they have the support of the Coptic Christians, of the Jews, and of others who cultivate the soil and speak the language of Egypt. Between these the party make no distinction whatever, holding all men to be brothers, and to have equal rights, both political and before the law. This principle is accepted by all the chief Sheikhs of the Azbar who support the party, holding the true law of Islam to forbid religious hatred and religious disabilities. With Europeans resident in Egypt the National party have no quarrel, either as Christians or as strangers, so long as these shall live conformably with the laws and bear their share of the burdens of the State.

6. Finally, the general end of the National party is the intellectual and moral regeneration of the country by a better observance of the law, by increased education, and by political liberty, which they hold to be the pathy of those of the nations of Europe which enjoy the blessing of self-government to aid Egypt in gaining for itself that blessing; but they are aware that no nation ever yet achieved liberty except by its own endeavours, and they are resolved to stand firm in the position they have won, trusting to God's help if all other be denied them.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF NATAL.

The manner in which the Government has rectified the blunder they committed in appointing a comparatively unknown official to rule over Natal, leaves no room for fault-finding. When it was first announced that Mr. Sendall had been nominated to the post, we suggested that Sir Henry Bulwer would have been in every way a better choice :-

It needs scarcely to be said, therefore, that we cordially endorse the Ministerial selection of this capable administrator, and we feel confident that it will meet with universal approval in Natal. Not only have the colonists secured the services of one who gained their regard long ago, but he comes to them in the position of Governor, and they will consequently be able to put aside their fear of being subjected to the authority of the Governor, Sir Hercules Robinson. The natives of Natal and Zululand will be no less pleased to see Sir Henry Bulwer again. He always stood their friend whenever they had any real injustice or hardship to complain of, but his accurate knowledge of native affairs enabled him to keep clear of the pitfalls into which ignorance sometimes leads our "man and brother" zealots. When the Zulu war was on the eve of breaking out, Sir Henry Bulwer wrote some remarkable despatches, in which he deprecated too hasty acceptance of the theory that Cetewayo intended to invade Natal. It was chiefly that assumption which influenced Sir Bartle Frere to direct Lord Chelmsford to cross the Tugela, and although the circumstances of the hour certainly seemed to justify his decision, it is now generally recognised in South Africa that Sir Henry Bulwer gauged the situation with the greater accuracy. After hostilities had once commenced, however, he gave the most loyal co-operation, so long as he remained Lieutenant-Governor, towards insurng the success of the campaign. We trust that this well-considered appointment will allay the popular discontent which has lately threatened to make Natal a sort of South African Ireland. By acting upon the adage, Better late than never," the Government have partly redeemed their previous blunder.

CHRISTMAS IN ALGIERS. The Pall Mall Gazette publishes the fol-

lowing letter, dated December 25, from a correspondent in Algiers :-How is it possible for English eyes to realize that to-day is Christmas Day? By halfpast seven this morning mountains, upland, plain, and city were a blaze of what with us would be more than June sunshine. Out of doors the ground is matted with wild marigolds, candytuft, and mignonette; there are birds chattering in every bush, and as one threads the gorges which seam the Sahel above Algiers, one passes out of orange gardens, at once heavy with fruit and fragrant with perennial blossom, only to find oneself on wooded slopes starred with wild jessamine or purple iris, and sweet with narcissus. What a climate, and what views from these hills above the town! All day long the snowy peaks of the distant Djurjura, which bound the mysterious Kabyle country eighty miles away, hang glistening above the nearer purple of the Atlas range. There is scarcely a change in the sunny outline till the sunset rose flushes sky and plain, and the sudden starlit night comes balmily down on land and sea. And with all this warmth the air, at any rate on the hills, is keen and bracing. The streets of the town may be close and airless, but across the high promontory along which the English and French villas are mostly built the Atlantic winds blow freshly enough. There is sea to west of us and sea to east of us, and between the Bay of Algiers and the blue curves of the Mediterranean which trend westward to the Julia Casarea of Roman days, the woody point which shel-ters Algiers and its suburbs runs north and south, and catches every breeze that blows.

Every year fresh villas spring up on these slopes of the Sahel, and every year brings fresh English families to live in them. With-

sight-seeing, and contented ourselves with administration, England is gradually possessing herself at least of the immediate vicinity of Algiers. Very soon the few French villas which remain will find themselves enveloped in the advancing English tide. Every vacant plot of land, every Arab farmhouse which comes into the market, finds some rich and eager English purchaser. English competition has sent up the prices both of land and building enormously, and the French population, which as a rule is not rich, will be either bought or crowded out of the Sahel before many years are over, unless some turn of the political wheel interferes to check the English immigration. The principal figure in this little drama of peaceable annexation seems to the casual visitor to be a certain English architect, who has developed a happy gift for housing his countrymen in villas modelled on the Moorish type; many of them, indeed, being the fine old Moorish houses adapted to English wants. Mr. Knox, in his amusing and captious account of Algiers in "The New Playground," protests against these Arab houses, new and old, as chilly and sunless. One is inclined to suspect that he may have taken his impression of them chiefly from a well-known house in the town belonging to a French artist whose kind and pretty wife is always ready to do the honours of its carved and coloured doors and its untouched staircases and courtyards to the strangers who come to see it. Here, indeed, there is little light and less air. Out side is the narrow Arab street, and inside the rooms have no outlet except in the central court, just as in the days when some high official of the Dey lived in it, and his wives escaped at sundown to the roof to chatter to their friends on the adjoining roofs, or to ramble if they liked over half the town by means of the little bridges connecting house with house. But up on the hill these adapted Moorish houses have their round arched windows within and without. The central court, the staircases, the rooms, are dressed on walls and floors with richly coloured tiles, which seem to catch and keep every ray of sun; and the Eastern carpets, the brasses and enamels, inside answer to the colour and splendour of that great view of sea and mountain which every outer window commands. In front of some of the houses are trim terraced gardens as bright in December as any English garden can hope to be in July. But in a few cases the old garden has been preserved, and you look down from the outer court into a jealously walled enclosure filled with the only flowers the high-born Arab cared for, thickly planted groves of orange and lemon trees, mixed with oushes of large-flowered, pink-tipped jessa-

It is evident indeed that these houses, combined with the winter climate of Algiers, are exercising a very powerful attracting influence on wealthy English folk. Land at El Biar or Mustapha frequently sells for about £1,000 a hectare (or £400 an acre), and nearer the town the price is considerably higher. Many people who invested eight or nine hundred pounds in land here some years ago could now sell at a profit of more than a hundred per cent. And each of the few Arab houses inhabited by Arabs which still remain is marked down for purchase sooner or later, and will fall into the covetous English clutch whenever the wave of temptation rolls high enough to sweep away the sentimental scruples and traditions of their turbaned possessors.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, MONDAY.

The Queen walked and drove this morning with Princess Beatrice. Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne left Osborne to-day for Bagshot Park. The Rev. Canon Fleming, B.D., had the honour of dining with her Majesty and the Royal Family yesterday. Major-General Du Plat and Captain Bigge have succeeded Lieutenant-General Gardiner and Colonel Sir John Carstairs M'Neill, K.C.M.G., as Equeries in Waiting.

Count Edmund Batthyany has returned to town from Harehope Hall, Northumberland. The marriage of Mr. Louis Ponsonby, only son of the Hon. Gerald and Lady Maria Pon-sonby, with Miss Leyborne Popham, of Littlecote, will take place on the 9th of February.

THE VOYAGE OF THE "CEYLON." (BY A PASSENGER.)

We spent a pleasant day at Marseilles

and took up five new passengers. In the even-

ing a few people dined with us from the shore: and after dinner, the quarter-deck being dressed with bunting, we danced until it was time to leave for Genoa, which we reached late in the evening. Next morning (Nov. 19th), owing to retaliation for an Italian ship being quarantined at London, we did not get permission to land till late in the afternoon.
At night we left, and had a fine run down the coast of Italy during the following day amongst the beautiful islands, and arrived at Naples early on the second morning, and had a splendid view of the bay as the sun rose over it and turned Vesuvius and the heights around it a rich purple. Here we had nearly four days' stay, and several went ashore for the time to get a change from the confinement of the ship. The first day most of us, I think, spent in visiting the Museum and Cathedral, and finished with a drive along the Chiaja, where we expected but, in vain, to see the beauties of Naples. In the evening some went to the Opera. The next day, in parties of twos and threes, we went to Pompeii, and spent a long afternoon there. Our last day was spent by most of the party in ascending Mount Vesuvius. I wait till we reach the Sandwich Islands, where I hope to ascend a much finer burning mountain, the volcano of Kirauca in Hawaii. With Captain Lunham I took a lovely drive towards Baiae, "calling" at Virgil's tomb on our way. As we drove back I saw the prettiest face I have seen since leaving England—that of a little peasant girl about fifteen years old, with a rich nut-brown skin and brilliant cheeks, teeth, and eyes, and with black hair in ripples on her forehead. I am sorry to say she ran with her smaller sisters after the carriage for pennies, of which, luckily, I had taken a supply, so we were able to enjoy a beautiful smile until we were out of sight. We sailed that evening, and on the morning of the 25th arrived at Palermo, the cleanest and best-built of all the foreign ports we have entered in the Mediterranean. was spent in visiting the semi-Moorish church and convent at Monreale and the mummies of those deceased in the last sixty years in the neighbourhood at the Capuchin At every two hundred yards along the road we drove over, sentries were stationed to protect us from the brigands, who are reported to be numerous and determined However, we did not see them. From the road which runs up one side of the mountains enclosing the valley we obtained a grand view of the Golden Horn, as it is called, with Palermo and the bay at the extremity. From the heights the orange and lemon groves give a rich colour to the groundwork of green, and as we returned the setting sun gave new expression to the scenery. We left at dawn next day, and passed in daylight between Scylla and Charybdis. All over the Mediterranean coast one is struck by the beautiful valleys, running down to the sea, which have at one time been covered by water. They are usually extremely fertile, and contrast strongly with the rugged mountains which enclose them.

We arrived at Malta at daybreak, and

almost before we anchored the coaling began, at the rate of 120 tons an hour, and soon those foolish enough to stay on board were black with the fine dust which covers one imperceptibly. Here we did little

visiting friends on shore and in the various men-of-war lying in the harbour. The nex day we had a ball on board, and entertaine a good number of friends, including a party of ladies and gentlemen from the City of Calcutta, which was lying at Valetta, owing to something in her machinery having gone wrong. Early next morning we left Malta and four of our pleasantest passengers behind, much to every one's regret. They started from England intending to stop at Naples, but they found a difficulty in getting a suitable house there, so they came a little further with We arrived at the Piræus on Dec. 1, and spent a long day in Athens at the Museum and various ruins. The next day we left, and with cold weather and a strong head wind, slowly progressed to Constantinople, where we were two days late. As it was so bitterly cold, however, no one, I think, regretted eventually the shortness of our stay, namely, three days. On December 8 we left for Smyrna, where we arrived on Saturday, the 10th, and next day a dozen of us started, in terrible fear of brigands, to go and see Ephesus. Every man had a revolver in his pocket, all of which had a very "new" look about them, and when we arrived at the station near the ruins and walked through a crowd of brigandish-looking idlers, there was a strong inclination shown to allow the butt of a pistol to protrude from the pocket. We were mounted amidst great dissatisfaction on a lot of a very sad and skeleton-like ponies, with Turkish saddles and bridles made of string, tape, and other fragile ma-terials. We spent a day at Rhodes visiting the old houses and armoury of the Knights, and admiring their walls, which have never been repaired, but are still in good preservation, and then went on to Alex-audria, where we were joined by some new passengers. About half our people have gone to Cairo, and will join us again at Suez. As we left Alexandria the wind began to rise, and when the pilot departed a heavyish sea was running. Through the awkwardness of the crew of his boat they fouled one of the davits of our lifeboat with their mast, and then tried to sheer off. The consequence was that their boat was overturned and tore away the davit, letting the lifeboat fall, and smashing some feet of our bulwarks. Two of our boats were immediately lowered, and with some difficulty succeeded in taking off all the men, five in number, and returned with them to the Ceylon, where we put them to bed in hot blankets, and under the influence of hot coffee and cigarettes they were soon all right. Their boat would be picked up by two other pilot-boats that were close by uninjured, but the loss to us will be considerable, as the lifeboat was so injured that she was worthless, and was cut adrift. We arrived at Port Said, where we took in a fresh supply of coal in a remarkably short space of time—five hundred tons in less than two hours and a half. Our agents-Willis, Manche, and Co. —who supplied us recently, put eight hun-dred tons into one of the boats of the Glen Line in just over three hours. We entered the Canal at half-past three on Sunday, Dec. 18, and have now (Dec. 23) been three days in it. We hope to get out this evening, but as we are last in a line of fifteen steamers which started to-day from their anchorage in the Bitter Lakes any accident may stop us. From Suez we go straight to

PRICE 40 CENTIMES

IRELAND.

Bombay, as there is cholera at Aden.

Mr. Dawson, M.P., was inaugurated as Lord Mayor of Dublin on Monday. Contrary to expectation, the city trade bands did not take part in the procession. It is believed their absence was owing to an intimation from the Castle authorities that, should they attend, the military bands and escort would not be granted. So far the city is quiet, The customary vote of thanks to the outgoing Lord Mayor was lost by ten votes on account of his action in refusing to convene a special meeting of the Corporation to confer the freedom of the city on Messrs. Parnell and Dillon. Dr. Meyers was hissed by the mob in the streets. He has declined to attend the inaugural banquet to-night.

At the installation of the Mayor of Cork for 1882 a scene of indescribable disorder took place. Owing to the Parnellite candidate having been ousted, nobody was listened to, and several free fights took place between the sympathisers of opposing sections in the Council. Mayor Galvin was installed in dumb show, and both he and the retiring Mayor, Mr. O'Sullivan, got roughly handled, the carriage of the latter being entered as it left the Court-house by a number of rowdies,

who rode with the ex-Mayor. Miss Annie M'Aulisse, president, Miss Ellie Haningan, secretary, and two other young ladies, members of the Drumcollogher Land League, were arrested on Sunday and taken before Lord Muskerry, and on refusing to give bail, were taken to Newcastle West, and conveyed to Limerick Gaol. Great ex-

citement prevailed in the district. The following printed notice was extensively posted up on Sunday in Ballyhaunis and neighbourhood:—" Notice.—Ten pounds reward will be given to any person who can give sufficient information of any tenantfarmers having paid any rent since the Norent Manifesto was issued by the Central Executive; and also five pounds will be given to any person who can give information of the police about Land League organisation .-By order of the Committee in Council."

On Sunday over 400 persons, carrying banners, armed with sticks, and accompanied by dogs, broke into a demesne at Montna, near Carrick-on-Shannon, and held a Land League hunt, slaughtering a large amount of game. A party of constabulary endeavoured to interfere, but had to betake themselves to

In accordance with the circular issued from the executive of the Dublin Ladies' Land League, a meeting of the Clonakilty branch of the Ladies' Land League was held on Sunday. When the members had assembled the police entered the room, took down the names of those present, and threatened to prosecute. The meeting was held notwithstanding, and resolutions were passed tendering sympathy to Miss Reynolds, imprisoned in Cork Gaol, and expressing their determination to adhere to the principles of the Land League, despite intimidation and coer-

Arrests of Lady Land Leaguers are reported from all parts of the country. Three took place on Monday at Roscommon, namely, Mrs. Walsh, president, Miss Rose Ward, secretary, and Mrs. Skerritt, treasurer of the Keadue Ladies' Land League. They were taken to the police barracks, and thence before The McDermott, R.M. All the other adies who were present at the time of the arrests accompanied the ladies to Ballyfarnon, the residence of The McDermott. The ladies were conveyed under a large escort of police. On Monday also Miss Annie M. Coulisse, president, Miss Hannigan, secretary, and two other young ladies, members of the Drumcollagher Ladies' League, were arrested and taken before the magistrate. As in the case of the Roscommon ladies, they declined to find bail, and were accordingly lodged in prison at Kilmallock.

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EDITION.

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 2-3, 1882.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH TREATY. Probably the political results of the anticipated failure of the Treaty negociations will be greater in France than in England. Mr. Gladstone, devoted, as he is known to be, to Free Trade and to international peace, will gain rather than lose by the attitude of his negotiators. It will be seen that he knows how to be firm, and that he is resolved to make no further concessions even for the sake of that entente cordiale, a regard for which he inherits from his old leader Lord Aberdeen. There is little likelihood that any taunts will be addressed to our Minister for a result which no reasonable concession on his part could avert. In France the scattered and discordant Opposition are not likely to be so reticent. Many shades of journalists, from the purest Legitimist to the deepest "Red," will be delighted to characterise this as another of M. Gambetta's "failures," and it will certainly be awkward that negociations which hung fire because of his expected accession should collapse altogether almost as soon as he takes the reins. French trade and speculation are remarkably sensitive, and the fear of a war of tariffs will certainly arise. For the two countries will recover their freedom, and will stand in the fiscal position they occupied when Mr. Cobden had his first interview with Napoleon III. There is, however, very little chance of our returning to the tariff of 1859; for we have gone long beyond the elementary idea that a nation is rich the more it shuts out products from abroad. In 1860, with a few limited exceptions, Mr. Gladstone abolished totally all duties upon all imported manufactures. "There will be," he said, summary, entire, and absolute, of all such goods from the British tariff." That change was final; there is not the remotest chance that under any idea of retaliation we shall re-impose a single item of the taxes on imports then removed. As regards, however, the change in the wine duties effected in 1860, in accordance with the Treaty, not only shall we be released from the obligations of that instrument, but it would be quite practicable to modify rather than reverse our proceedings twenty-one years ago. It must be rememberd that at that time we not only reduced the wine duty, but adopted a sliding scale with reference to alcoholic strength. This was a distinct concession to France. Just as our Bradford and Manchester manufacturers desire ad valorem duties because they can beat the world in low-priced goods, the winegrowers of the South of France wished for an alcoholic scale because in cheap "weak" wines they are unrivalled. As an equal, or anything like an equal, tariff on all "cottons" or "woollens" taken in the mass shuts out our coarser goods, so a fixed duty on wine as wine operates in favour of the stronger and dearer liquors of Spain and Portugal, and proportionately against the cheap vintages of the Gironde. The recovery of our liberty as regards wine would enable the English Government to make changes not in the slightest degree opposed to the principles of Free Trade, but still operating indirectly to the disadvantage of the French growers. If all wines are admitted at a fixed duty per gallon without reference to strength, the dearer and more alcoholic liquors of Spain will gain in competition with the cheaper wines of France now admitted at a reduced duty. We shall be perfectly free either to level up or to level down. As Mr. Chamberlain said last August, "If the Treaty negotiations with France should break down, the English Government would be perfectly justified in dealing with the wine and spirit duties as they thought best for the interests of the He also pointed out that the country." duty on these articles was " partly fiscal and partly moral," so that, quite independent of revenue considerations, we might raise the tariff. At present the dutyvaried as regards the degrees of proof spirit-practically admits nearly all French clarets at a shilling a gallon, and imposes on all sherries and ports two and six-pence a gallon at least. Were we to raise the lower duty we should sensibly diminish the export of French wine to England; the cheaper clarets could not pay half a crown a gallon and be sold here at their present rate. Is M Gambetta prepared to face the discontent of the South, the very districts that produce not only the greatest quantities of wine, but the fieriest politicians, as the annals of the country for three generations abundantly Then, as regards spirits, in 1859 we levied a duty on their import of fifteen shillings a gallon; we now levy a little over ten shillings a gallon. Were we to revert to the tariff of twenty-one years ago as regards all alcoholic beverages Mr. Gladstone would be supported by the advocates of temperance, by the friends of British industry, and by men of all shades of politics. "We don't want to fight," but if driven to retaliation we should be united as one man. It will be for the French to consider whether for the sake of a minority of manufacturers they will imperil a commerce which has advanced

from fourteen millions a year of French

products sold to England before the Treaty

to an annual average of forty-two millions

1.3 .

countries is to be regretted. France especially has much to apprehend from isolation. She is not in the position in which she stood in 1860, when the Emperor Napoleon, victor in two great wars, had raised her to a commanding though dangerous eminence. Then no Germany existed to dispute with her the supremacy of Europe, and Russia and Austria had not only felt her power but were suitors for her alliance. At present she feels the results of 1870 in every direction, and England is the only Great Power on whose friendly feeling she can securely count. The real interests of the two countries are not opposed in any direction, and in Egypt both have a distinct gain in maintaining the status quo and in agreeing to exclude more or less all other European influence. If, however, the spirit which suggested and still sustains the Tunis expedition, and which has animated the negotiators in Paris last week, continues to prevail, English policy will suffer an inevitable change. We shall be drawn towards Germany, and Austria, and Italy, to the ultimate isolation of France. She, not we, would suffer most were Egypt to glide from under its present dual into a new international Protectorate, and in anything like a general Council of States she would find herself "severely alone." The policy of expansion and adventure that suited France for a time under the two Empires seems greatly out of place now. Europe is very different from what it was in 1811 or 1860. France itself is quite as strong, if not stronger, but her rivals have augmented their powers far beyond the proportion of her advance.-Daily Telegraph.

THE LADIES' LAND LEAGUE AND

THE GOVERNMENT. The Government have at last arrested three or four of the members of the Ladies' Land League. There was no alternative, unless the Irish Executive was prepared to stultify itself in the opinion of the public on both sides of St. George's Channel. The Ladies' Land League was declared illegal, and was, therefore, ipso facto suppressed ten days ago. Miss Parnell and the other members of the seditious Sisterhood detied the Proclamation, and when they did not ignore it, noticed it only to denounce it. On Sunday they held a meeting in Dublin avowedly as a challenge to the Government, and it was publicly stated that similar assemblages of all the Branches of the Association would take place on every Sunday "as a protest against the disposition of the police to make laws according to their own fancy." This left the Government no option. When women ostentatiously enrol themselves in the lists of the party hostile to law and order, there is only one rule which those who are responsible for the enforcement of order and law can observe. The Executive in matters of this kind can no more be a respecter of sex than of persons. An agitation led by revolutionary Amazons is as perilous a threat to the public peace as one the promoters of which are the wearers of frock coats or corduroy jackets. The Pétroleuses did more mischief than the Pétroleurs, and when women deliberately unsex themselves for political or any other reasons, they can neither claim nor receive much sentimental consideration. The lady Land Leaguers had fair warning, and if there is a fault to be found with the Government it is not that they have acted too quickly, but that they did not give some unmistakeable sign of their resolution to act a little earlier. This, indeed, is the error which Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet has committed too often. It has deliberated too long; it has carried out its resolutions too late. Ireland is no suitable field for the display of Fabian tactics. The Government were perfectly free to choose their own opportunity. If, immediately after the circular declaring the Ladies' Land League illegal had been formally defied by Miss Parnell, the authorities had unmistakeably shown their determination not to allow those who mocked and disobeyed the law to go unpunished, it is probable that the present disagreeable necessity would not have been forced upon them. The Lady Leaguers presumed upon the hesitation of the Executive, and the repeated indecision of the Government in the past justified their doing so. Hence it is that we are witnessing a new illustration of a familiar truth. The consequence of the failure to renew the Peace Preservation Act was the strongest Coercion Act known for half a century, and the wholesale arrest of Suspects; the consequence of Miss Parnell's depreciation of the vigorous intentions of the Government is the committal of several ladies to prison who were probably never serious competitors for the crown of

THE ROMAN QUESTION.

martyrdom.-Standard.

THE RUMOURED NEGOTIATIONS. The Vienna correspondent of the Stan-

dard telegraphed on Monday night :-The Papal Nuncio, Monsignore Vanutelli to whom I made a New Year's visit to-day commented, in the course of conversation upon the Roman Question, referring espe-cially to the articles in the Diritto and the statements made in the semi-official German

papers.
His Excellency said that he knew nothing of the alleged negotiations concerning the position of the Pope, beyond the unwarranted rumours which had found their way into print. If there had been any substantial basis for these rumours he would have heard of them, seeing that the Court of Vienna was friendly to the Vatican; but nothing had reached him either from the Court of Vienna reached him, either from the Court of Vienna or from Rome, which could justify the irritation manifested by the *Diritlo* on the subject, or which could be considered as a substantial fact. "I believe," said the Monsignore, that nobody here knows more about the matter than myself. The question is, no doubt, a natural one, but up to the present, though perhaps ideas and intentions exist in regard to it, these have not yet been trans-lated into action. I have heard, however," continued the Monsignore, "from friends in Rome, and I repeat what they said quite unofficially, that plans have been broached for with the difficulty in which since dealing 1870, both Italy and the Pope have been

I remarked that the Law of Guarantees Tremarked that the Law of Guarantees was intended to solve this difficult problem. The Nuncio answered, "That is doubtful. I had," said he, "a conversation recently upon this subject with one of my colleagues who knows Italy perfectly well, and also the general drift of Italian politics. The substance of this conversation," added the Montage of the conversation, added the Montage of the conversation of the colleagues. signore, "may interest you. My colleague observed that there does not exist in Italy during the last few years. On international grounds generally anything that diminishes cordiality between the two capital if he could decently do so. Before

the occupation of Rome, Italy could choose her allies freely, as becomes an independent State. Now, being mixed up with the Papal Question, she must necessarily suffer when-ever any dispute arises in which the Roman is concerned. Her alliances depend more or less upon the good or ill will of the Powers towards the Pope. This would no longer be the case if the Pope were in possession of an independent territory. Only then would Italy become a really powerful State. 'It has been urged,' said my colleague, 'that this could only be brought about after a war; but the idea is erroneous. Italian statesmen fully appreciate the nature of the difficulty, and the risk of undoing what has already been done, more especially as the necessity of obtaining Rome as the capital of Italy had, before the occupation in 1870, become the watchword of the Italian Revolutionists These, perhaps, will soon have other watchwords, aimed against the maintenance of existing institutions. A war, whether success-ful or otherwise, could hardly effect a satisfactory change. The end could be much better achieved by diplomatic pressure, since the Revolutionists would hardly venture to The end could be much face the whole of Europe. At the same time, Italian Statesmen, acting under the pressure of necessity, would speedily find a means of solving the problem in a manner that would solving the problem in a manner that would equally benefit the Pope, the Church, the dynasty, and Italy herself, who would then be a really independent Power."

"Does your Excellency," I inquired, "share these opinions?" He replied, "There is much force in them." I asked, "What concessions, in your opinion, should be made to

the Pope, in order to bring about a reconciliation between the Church and Italy?" answered, "I have no authority to speak upon the matter, and should hardly like to give an opinion as a representative of the Church. I asked the Monsignore what he thought about the report to the effect that the Pope should receive Rome with a strip of territory extending as far as Civita Vecchia. cannot," he replied, "express my own opinion; but in influential political circles this solution would be considered satisfactory, if it could be arrived at by means of friendly understanding It is said in these circles that the Pope could only consider himself free when he could come and go per mare without crossing the territory of another Sovereign; but even this enclosure might form part of the Kingdom of Italy, provided that the Pope was able to exer-cise Sovereign authority therein. Italy could maintain the administration of the territory, acting in the Pope's name, levying the taxes and customs duties, exercising police supervision as in other parts of Italy, and even keeping troops there, on the understanding that they were not there for the purpose of watching or molesting the Pope, but simply protecting him against foreign accounts.

protecting him against foreign enemies, as the French troops did during their occupation." "But does your Excellency," I inquired, think it possible to achieve this result The Monsignore answered, "I am not suffi-ciently well acquainted with the opinions of the leading Italian statesmen; but, being an Italian myself, I can only wish that some friendly understanding may be brought about that will satisfy both parties, thereby re-storing the greatness of the Church and at the same time securing the freedom of Italy in a manner not hitherto experienced.

I asked the Monsignore if there had not been some pourparlers on that subject when King Humbert was in Vienna. "I heard nothing," replied the Nuncio, "not having been here at the time; but Cardinal Haynald told me how extremely gracious the King and Queen were towards him. The Queen kissed his hands with devotion, thereby showing the reverence of the Royal family for the Church and her representatives. This, however," added the Monsignore, "is no novelty." The conversation then turned upon other topics.

PROGRAMME OF THE NATIONAL PARTY OF EGYPT.

The Syed Ahmed Bey Arabi sends to the Times the following exposition of the views and purposes of the party of which he has become the leader :-

1. The National party of Egypt accept the existing relations of Egypt with the Porte as the basis of their movement. That is to say they acknowledge the Sultan Abdul Hamid Khan as their Suzerain and Lord and as actual Caliph or head of the Mussulman religion; nor do they propose, while his Empire stands, to alter this relationship. They admit the right of the Porte to the tribute fixed by law and to military assistance in case of foreign war. At the same time, they are determined to defend their national rights and privileges, and to oppose by every means in their power the attempts of those who would reduce Egypt again to the condition of a Turkish Pashalik. They trust in the protecting Powers of Europe, and especially in England, to continue their guarantee of Egypt's administrative independence. 2. The National party express their loyal

allegiance to the person of the reigning Khedive. They will continue to support Mohammed Tewfik's authority so long as he shall rule in accordance with justice and the law, and in fulfilment of his promises made to the people of Egypt in September, 1881. They declare, however, their intention to permit no renewal of that despotic reign of injustice which Egypt has so often witnessed, and to insist upon the exact execution of his promise of governing with a Council of Deputies Meilis Showra en Mawab) and giving country freedom. They invite his Highness Mohammed Tewfik to act honestly by them in these matters, promising him their cordial help but they warn him against listening to those who would persuade him to continue his des-

potic power, to betray their national rights, r to elude his promises. The National party fully recognize the services rendered to Egypt by the Governments of England and of France, and they are aware hat all freedom and justice they have obained in the past have been due to them. For this they tender them their thanks. They recognize the European Control as a necessity of their financial position and the present continuance of it as the best guarantee of their prosperity. They declare their entire acceptance of the foreign debt as a matter of national honour—this although they know that it was incurred not for Egypt's benefit, that it was incurred not for larger than the but in the private interests of a dishonest and irresponsible ruler; and they are ready to assist the Controllers in discharging the full national obligations. They look, nevertheess, upon the existing order of things as in less, upon the existing order of things as in its nature temporary, and avow it as their hope gradually to redeem the country out of the hands of its creditors. Their object is some day to see Egypt entirely in Egyptian hands. Also, they are not blind to the im-perfections of the Control, which they are ready to point out. They know that many abuses are committed by those employed by abuses are committed by those employed by it, whether Europeans or others. They see some of these incapable, others dishonest, others too highly paid. They know that many offices, now held by strangers, would be better discharged by Egyptians and at a fifth of the cost; and they believe there is still much waste and much injustice. They cannot understand that Europeans living the land should remain for ever exempt from the general taxation or from obedience to the general law. The National party do not, however, propose to remedy these evils by any violent action; only they would protest against their unchecked continuance. They would have the Governments of France and England consider that, having taken the control of their finances out of the hands of the Egyptians, they are responsible for their prosperity, and are bound to see that efficient

and honest persons only are employed by

4. The National party disclaim all con-nexion with those who, in the interest of Powers jealous of Egypt's independence, seek to trouble the peace of the country—and there are many such—or with those who find their private advantage in disturbance. At the same time they are aware that a merely passive attitude will not secure them liberty in a land which is still ruled by a class to whom liberty is hateful. The silence of the people made Ismail Pacha's rule possible in Egypt, and silence now would leave their hope of political liberty unfulfilled. The Egyptians have learnt in the last few years what freedom means, and they are resolved to complete their national education. This they look to find in the Mejlis Showra just assembling, in a fair measure of freedom for the Press, and in the growth of knowledge among all classes of the people. They know, however, that none of these means of education can be secured except by the firm attitude of the National leaders. The Egyptian Assembly may be cajoled or frightened into silence, as at Constantinople; the Press may be used as an instrument against them; and the sources of instruction be cut off. It is for this reason and no other that the National party has confided its interests at the present time to the army, believing them to be the only power in the country able and willing to protect its growing liberties. It is not, however, in the plans of the party that this state of things shall continue, and as soon as the people shall have established their rights securely the army will abandon its present political attitude. In this the military leaders fully concur. They trust that on the assembling of the Nawab their further interference in affairs of State may be unnecessary. But for the present they will continue to perform their duty as the armed guardians of the unarmed people. Such being their position, they hold it imperative that their force shall be maintained efficient and their complement made up to the full number of 18,000 men. They trust that the European Control will keep this necessity in view when considering the army estimates.

5. The National party of Egypt are

political, not a religious party. They include within their ranks men of various races and various creeds. They are principally Mahomedans, because nine-tenths of the Egyptians are Mahomedans; but they have the support of the Coptic Christians, of the Jews, and of others who cultivate the soil and speak the language of Egypt. Between these the party make no stinction whatever, holding all men to be brothers, and to have equal rights, both political and before the law. This principle is accepted by all the chief Sheikhs of the Azbar who support the party, holding the true law of Islam to forbid religious hatred and religious disabilities. With Europeans resident in Egypt the National party have no quarrel, either as Christians or as strangers, so long as these shall live conformably with the laws and bear their share of the burdens of

6. Finally, the general end of the National party is the intellectual and moral regeneration of the country by a better observance of the law, by increased education, and by political liberty, which they hold to be the life of the people. They trust in the sympathy of those of the nations of Europe which enjoy the blessing of self-government to aid Egypt in gaining for itself that blessing; but they are aware that no nation ever yet achieved liberty except by its own endeavours, and they are resolved to stand firm in the position they have won, trusting to God's help if all other be denied them.

CHRISTMAS IN ALGIERS. The Pall Mall Gazette publishes the following letter, dated December 25, from a correspondent in Algiers :-

How is it possible for English eyes

lize that to-day is Christmas Day? By half-past seven this morning mountains, upland, plain, and city were a blaze of what with us would be more than June sunshine. Out of doors the ground is matted with wild marigolds, candytuft, and mignonette; there are birds chattering in every bush, and as one threads the gorges which seam the Sahel above Algiers, one passes out of orange gar-dens, at once heavy with fruit and fragrant with perennial blossom, only to find oneself on wooded slopes starred with wild jessamine or purple iris, and sweet with narcissus. What a climate, and what views from these hills above the town! All day long the snowy peaks of the distant Djurjura, which bound the mysterious Kabyle country eighty miles away, hang glistening above the nearer purple of the Atlas range. There is scarcely a change in the sunny outline till the sunset rose flushes sky and plain, and the sudden starlit night comes balmily down on land and sea. And with all this warmth the air, at any rate on the hills, is keen and bracing. The streets of the town may be close and airless, but across the high promontory along which the English and French villas are mostly built the Atlantic winds blow freshly There is sea to west of us and sea to east of us, and between the Bay of Algiers and the blue curves of the Mediterranean which trend westward to the Julia Cæsarea of Roman days, the woody point which shelters Algiers and its suburbs runs north and south, and catches every breeze that blows.

Every year fresh villas spring up on these slopes of the Sahel, and every year brings resh English families to live in them. Without any of the costly trouble of conquest and administration, England is gradually possessing herself at least of the immediate vicinity of Algiers. Very soon the few French villas remain will find themselves enveloped in the advancing English tide. vacant plot of land, every Arab farmhous which comes into the market, finds some rich and eager English purchaser. English competition has sent up the prices both of land and building enormously, and the French population, which as a rule is not rich, will either bought or crowded out of the Sahel before many years are over, unless some turn of the political wheel interferes to check the English immigration. The principal figure in this little drama of peaceable annexation seems to the casual visitor to be a certain English architect, who has developed a happy gift for housing his countrymen in villas modelled on the Moorish type; many of them, indeed, being the fine old Moorish houses adapted to English wants. Knox, in his amusing and captious account of Algiers in "The New Playground," protests against these Arab houses, new and old, as chilly and sunless. One is inclined to suspect that he may have taken his impression of them chiefly from a well-known house in the town belonging to a French artist whose kind and pretty wife is always ready to do the honours of its carved and coloured doors and its untouched staircases and courtyards to the strangers who come to see it. indeed, there is little light and less air. side is the narrow Arab street, and inside the rooms have no outlet except in the central court, just as in the days when some high official of the Dey lived in it, and his wives escaped at sundown to the roof to chatter to their friends on the adjoining roofs, or to ramble if they over half the town by means of the little bridges connecting house with house. up on the hill these adapted Moorish houses have their round arched windows within and without. The central court, the staircases, the rooms, are dressed on walls and floor with richly coloured tiles, which seem to catch and keep every ray of sun; and the Eastern carpets, the brasses and enamels, inside carpets, the brasses and enamels, inside answer to the colour and splendour of that great view of sea and mountain which every

outer window commands. In front of some

of the houses are trim terraced gardens as

bright in December as any English garden can hope to be in July. But in a few cases

the old garden has been preserved, and you look down from the outer court into a jealously walled enclosure filled with the only flowers the high-born Arab cared for, thickly planted groves of orange and lemon trees, mixed with bushes of large-flowered, pink-tipped jessa-

It is evident indeed that these houses, combined with the winter climate of Algiers, are exercising a very powerful attracting influence on wealthy English folk. Land at El Biar or Mustapha frequently sells for about £1,000 a hectare (or £400 an acre), and nearer the town the price is considerably higher. Many people who invested eight or nine hundred pounds in land here some years ago could now sell at a profit of more than a hundred per cent. And each of the few Arab houses inhabited by Arabs which still remain is marked down for purchase sconer or later, and will fall into the covetous English clutch whenever the wave of temptation rolls high enough to sweep away the sentimental scruples and traditions of their turbaned possessors.

THE VOYAGE OF THE "CEYLON."

(BY A PASSENGER.)

We spent a pleasant day at Marseilles and took up five new passengers. In the even-ing a few people dined with us from the shore; and after dinner, the quarter-deck being dressed with bunting, we danced until it was time to leave for Genoa, which we reached late in the evening. Next morning (Nov. 19th), owing to retaliation for an Italian ship being quarantined at London, we did not get permission to land till late in the afternoon.

At night we left, and had a fine run down the coast of Italy during the following day amongst the beautiful islands, and arrived at Naples early on the second morning, and had a splendid view of the bay as the sun rose over it and turned Vesuvius and the heights around it a rich purple. Here we had nearly four days' stay, and several went ashore for the time to get a change from the confinement of the ship. The first day most of us, I think, spent in visiting the Museum and Cathedral, and finished with a drive along the Chiaja, where we expected, but in vain, to see the beauties of Naples. In the evening some went to the Opera. The next day, in parties of twos and threes, we went to Pompeii, and spent a long afternoon there. Our last day was spent by most of the party in ascending Mount Vesuvius. I wait till we reach the Sandwich Islands, where I hope to ascend a much finer burning mountain, the volcano of Kirauca in Hawaii. With Captain Lunham I took a lovely drive towards Captain Lunham I took a lovely drive towards
Baiae, "calling" at Virgil's tomb on our way.
As we drove back I saw the prettiest face I
have seen since leaving England—that of a
little peasant girl about fifteen years old,
with a rich nut-brown skin and brilliant
cheeks, teeth, and eyes, and with black hair
in ripples on her forehead. I am sorry to
say she ran with her smaller sisters after the
carriage for pennies, of which, luckily, I had carriage for pennies, of which, luckily, I had taken a supply, so we were able to enjoy a beautiful smile until we were out of sight We sailed that evening, and on the morning of the 25th arrived at Palermo, the cleanest and best-built of all the foreign ports we have entered in the Mediterranean. The day was spent in visiting the semi-Moorish church and convent at Monreale and the mummies of those deceased in the last sixty years in the neighbourhood at the Capuchin monastery. At every two hundred yards along the road we drove over, sentries were stationed to protect us from the brigands, who are reported to be numerous and determined. However, we did not see them. From the road which runs up one side of the mountains enclosing the valley we obtained a grand view of the Golden Horn, as it is called with Palermo and the bay at the extremity. From the heights the orange and lemon groves give a rich colour to the groundwork of green, and as we returned the setting sun gave new expression to the scenery. We left at dawn next day, and passed in daylight between Scylla and Charybdis. All over the Mediterranean coast one is struck by the beautiful valleys, running down to the sea, which have at one time been covered by water. They are usually extremely fertile, and contrast strongly with the rugged mountains which enclose them.

We arrived at Malta at daybreak, and almost before we anchored the coaling began, at the rate of 120 tons an hour, and soon those foolish enough to stay on board were black with the fine dust which covers one almost imperceptibly. Here we did little sight-seeing, and contented ourselves with visiting friends on shore and in the various men-of-war lying in the harbour. The next day we had a ball on board, and entertained a good number of friends, including a party of ladies and gentlemen from the City Calcutta, which was lying at Valetta, owing to something in her machinery having gone wrong. Early next morning we left Malta and four of our pleasantest passengers behind, much to every one's regret. They started from England intending to stop at Naples, but they found a difficulty in getting a suitable house there, so they came a little further with us. We arrived at the Piræus on Dec. 1, and spent a long day in Athens at the Museum and various ruins. The next day we left, and with cold weather and a strong head wind, slowly progressed to Constantinople, where we were two days late. As it was so bitterly cold, however, no one, I think, regretted eventually the shortness of our stay, namely, three days. On December 8 we left for Smyrna, where we arrived on Saturday, the 10th, and next day a dozen of us started, in terrible fear of brigands, to go and see Ephesus. Every man had a revolver in his pocket, all of which had a very "new" look about them, and when we arrived at the station near the ruins and walked through a crowd of brigandish-looking idlers, there was strong inclination shown to allow the butt of a pistol to protrude from the pocket. We were mounted amidst great dissatisfaction on a lot of a very sad and skeleton-like ponies, with Turkish saddles and bridles made of string, tape, and other fragile materials. We spent a day at Rhodes visiting the old houses and armoury of the Knights, and admiring their walls, which have never been repaired, but are still in good preservation, and then went on to Alexandria, where we were joined by some new passengers. About half our people have gone to Cairo, and will join us again at Suez. As we left Alexandria the wind began to rise, and when the pilot departed a heavyish sea was running. Through the awkwardness of the crew of his boat they fouled one of the davits of our lifeboat with their mast, and then tried to sheer off. The consequence was that their boat was overturned and tore away the davit, letting the lifeboat fall, and smashing some feet of our bulwarks. Two of our boats were immediately lowered, and with some difficulty succeeded in taking off all the men, five in number, and returned with them to the Ceylon, where we put them to bed in hot blankets, and under the influence of hot coffee and cigarettes they were soon all right. Their boat would be picked up by two other pilot-boats that were close by uninjured, but the loss to us will be considerable, as the lifeboat was so injured that she was worthless, and was cut adrift. We arrived at Port less, and was cut aurit. We arrived at for Said, where we took in a fresh supply of coal in a remarkably short space of time—five hundred tons in less than two hours and a half. Our agents—Willis, Manche, and Co. —who supplied us recently, put eight hun-dred tops into one of the boats of the Glen Line in just over three hours. We entered the Canal at half-past three on Sunday, Dec. 18, and have now (Dec. 23) been three days in it. We hope to get out this even ing, but as we are last in a line of fifteen steamers which started to-day from their anchorage in the Bitter Lakes any accident may stop us. From Suez we go straight to Bombay, as there is cholera at Aden.

THE IRISH LAND BILL. MEETING OF LANDLORDS.

MEETING OF LANDLORDS.

The largest meeting of landed gentry ever held in Ireland took place on Tuesday, in the Exhibition Palace, Dublin. Upwards of 3,000 landlords were present. Many ladies occupied seats at the back of the platform. Nearly all the noblemen resident in Ireland and many members of Parliament were amongst the assemblage. The Marquis of Ormonde, the Marquis of Waterford, the Marquess of Headford, the Marquess of Drogheda, Lord Donoughmore, Lord Doneraile, Lord Ardilaun, Lord Lismore, Lord Carysfort, the Earl of Rosse, Colonel Ffolliott, Mr. Ion Trant Hamilton, M.P., Sir Thomas Bateson, Mr. Gibson, M.P., the Hon. David Plunkett, M.P., Lord Cloncurry, Mr. Bruen, Sir George Colthurst, Colonel Tettenham, M.P., the Earl of Belmore, Lord Clonbrook, the Marquess of Hamilton, Lord Kilmore, Lord Crichton, Colonel Taylor, Lord James Butler, Major Borrowes, Sir A. Weldon, Mr. Archall, M.P., Mr. George Morris, Lord Arthur Butler, Lord Crofton, etc.—The chair was taken by the Duke of Abercorn.

taken by the Duke of Abercorn.

Colonel Tottenham, M.P., read letters of apology which had been received from all apology which had been received from all parts of the country, expressing approval of the objects of the meeting. Amongst the writers were the Earl of Meath, who protested against the unjust decisions of the Sub-Commissioners; Earl Fitzwilliam, who said the present action of the Government would lead to more deplorable results; the Earl of Pembroke; and Mr. John Mulholland, M.P., who said the had supported the Land Bill who said he had supported the Land Bill, but it was not being administered according

to promise. In his opening address, the Duke of Aber-corn stated that the objects of the meeting were not hostile to the Government, but they desired to criticise the method in which the Land Act had been administered, and com-plained of the procedure of the Sub-Com-missioners, who had no acquaintance with the methods of valuation. The advice of professional valuators was disregarded. Their valuation made in such a haphazard fashion was nothing but a preposterous farce. It was hoped by the Sub-Commissioners to stop the League agitation by allowing the tenants to come into Court, and this was, he believed, a most impolitic step. If the reductions had been fairly made, the landlords, he thought would not have to complain of the injustice and partiality of the measure. He complained that the Sub-Commissioners had been selected on account of their partisan principles, and because they favoured the claims of the tenants. They would not allow their property

to be dissipated in the vain attempt to pro-pitiate a homicidal and seditious Land League (cheers),

The following were the resolutions sub-

Proposed by the Earl of Dartrey, K.P., seconded by Lord Ardilaun:—"That this meeting, while expressing its unalterable attachment to the Crown and Constitution of the realm, and the readiness of the landowners of Ireland, as loyal subjects, to submit to the provisions of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, sees with alarm that that measure is being at present administered in a manner at variance with the pledge that it would not diminish the value or disturb the foundations of property, and contrary to the assurances on the faith of which Parliament was advised

not to provide compensation."

Proposed by the Marquis of Waterford,
K.P., seconded by R. J. Mahony, Esq.: "That the position, antecedents, experience and status of the Assistant Commissioners should be such as to insure the impartial and judicial exercise of their functions and command the confidence of suitors and of the public; and this meeting observes that, in many of the appointments by which these offices have been filled, the above considera-

Proposed by Arthur M.M. Kavanagh, Esq., seconded by Francis Danes Longworth, Esq. "That this meeting protests in the strongest manner against the action of the Assistant Commissioners, inasmuch as it observes that in determining what is a fair rent they ap-pear to rest their decisions mainly upon their own cursory inspection of the lands during hurried visits in the depth of winter; that, contrary to the practice of all other Courts they fail to state the grounds of their judgments, thus doing great injustice to parties who may desire to appeal against their decisions; that, while it is to be presumed, and has been stated by some of them, that they are guided by certain definite principles, they have abstained from announcing what those principles are, and they proceed as if they were bound to make an indiscriminate reduction of rents.

Proposed by the Earl of Westmeath, conded by Colonel King-Harman: "That in-asmuch as the Land Act has been administered by the Assistant Commissioners in a manner not contemplated by Parliament, this meeting is of opinion that appeals from their decisions should be heard by the Chief Commissioners without delay; that, pending such appeals, their further action should be stayed, and that if such appeals should result in sanctioning the decision of the Assistant Commissioners, it would be incumbent on the Legislature to provide compensation for those land-owners and others whose property would be thereby unjustly diminished."

Proposed by R. N. Penrose Fitzgerald, Esq., seconded by Lord De Freyne: "That an humble petition to her most Gracious Majesty the Queen embodying the views of this meeting, be signed by those present, that the executive committee be directed to adopt measures, so as to enable others not resent to append their signatures, and that nis Grace the Duke of Abercorn be requested transmit the same to the Secretary of State

to be laid before her Majesty."
Proposed by the Earl of Belmore, K.C.M.G. seconded by W. Bentham, Esq.: "That copies of the foregoing resolutions be forwarded by the chairman to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and the Prime Minister, and that this meeting be now adjourned to a day to be hereafter fixed by the executive committee, by whom at least ten days' notice should be whom at least ten days' notice should be given of the day on which such adjourned meeting shall be held."

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE " DAILY NEWS."

The following letter from Lord Hartington to Mr. H. Richard, M.P. for Merthyr Tydfil, has reference to the expedition against the Abors :-- 'India Office, Dec. 22, 1881.-Dear Mr. Richard: I am sorry to find that there has been so much delay in replying to your letter of the 10th inst. The Government of India have made no report to me on the subject of the proceedings in regard to the Abor tribes, and I do not think it pro-bable that anything of importance or likely to lead to serious consequences has taken place. The conduct of the tribes has been generally good, but since the years 1875-6 they have given some trouble, and it may have been found necessary to make some show of force in order to keep them to their engagements. I shall no doubt hear if any-

thing of importance takes place.—I remain, yours sincerely (signed), Harriseton."

It is estimated that one-fourth of the Irish tenants who need protection have come under the operation of the Land Act. For every case actually brought into Court one is settled without litigation under the authority of the Court. It appears that persons com-petent to form an opinion believe that in a period not exceeding two years the whole question will be settled.

We learn that Mr. Edward Fairfield, who was despatched by Lord Kimberley to Cyprus on special service, has now visited Kyrenia, Famagousta, Larnaca, and Limassol. While at Lanarca he visited one or two villages in that district in order aparently to

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NOTICE.

A four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great-Britain. LONDON, JANUARY 4-5, 1882. ENGLAND AND FRANCE. The cordial understanding between England and France, which has now lasted for nearly thirty years, has undergone some rude strains of late. International alliances are by no means merely affairs of sentiment; in order to be durable and fruitful they must be based on common interests and objects, on mutual respect and reciprocal advantage. England might wish well to France and France to England, but the feeling on both sides, however sincere, would not sustain an alliance in default of some more solid interests in common. Where are we to look at the present moment for that community of interests which cements the friendships of nations? It exists, no doubt, in the abstract, but its recognition on either side of the Channel is very far from being reciprocal and equivalent. We went hand in hand with France in the Crimean war, and, later on, England made some sacrifices for the sake of the alliance in the Chinese and Syrian expeditions. A cloud came for a time between the two nations in 1859, and there were faults on both sides, no doubt; but the friendship was renewed and consolidated by the Treaty of Commerce, which seemed for a long time to place the cordial relations between England and France beyond the reach of accident. Each country benefited through the vast development of com-England. mercial intercourse-France certainly not the least-and it seemed impossible that so potent a bond of union between two friendly and neighbouring States should ever be voluntarily severed. In spite of sinister appearances we still believe it to be impossible. The negotiations have certainly not prospered so far, and the time is at hand when they must either be brought to a satisfactory conclusion or finally abandoned. The latter issue seems probable-indeed, almost inevitable-for the moment. England, indeed, can afford to accept it with complacency, so far as

her commercial interests in general are concerned, for, though some of her trades and manufactures will suffer, and suffer heavily, for a time, yet the trade of England with France does not bear anything | material co-operation; and he added that like the same proportion to the whole trade of the country as the French trade with England bears to the total trade of France. The greatest sufferer will, therefore, be France, as Frenchmen themselves are at last beginning to discern. But, apart from the injury to commercial interests, it cannot be doubted that the failure of the treaty negotiations will deal a severe blow to the cordiality of the Anglo-French alliance. The interests of the pocket are very sensitive, and when Englishmen find that France not only declines to trade with them, but treats their political and international interests with scant consideration, as she has seemed inclined to do of late, they will naturally begin to ask themselves whether,

after all, the alliance is not some-

what of the nature of the one-sided friend-

ship described by Aristotle, where

one party gives exceedingly much and

receives exceedingly little in return. Cer-

tainly England is free from reproach in

the matter. She has shown herself ready to act with France and is only too anxious to trade with her. But action with France in the field of politics common to both has been not a little difficult, at any rate since the evil day when M. St. Hilaire was installed at the French Foreign Office. Even before that time we had found the hesitations and mutations of French policy capable of seriously impairing the action of the European concert. If the naval demonstration at Dulcigno was finally successful, it was mainly the action of France that brought it near to failure. The settlement of the Greek frontier question, again, was imperilled and postpozed by the unaccountable vacillation of policy displayed by the French Government. These were both objects by which England set much store, and we certainly might have looked for a more cordial and sustained support from our friendly neighbour and ally. The whole affair of Tunis, again, has been conducted from the outset with a singular disregard of English views and susceptibilities on the subject. On the other hand, it cannot be said that England has been wanting in a loyal, not to say anxious, regard for the obligations imposed upon her by her de-

sire for a cordial understanding with France. We have been content to follow the French lead in Egypt, certainly not because we regarded the interests of the two countries as identical or even commensurate, still less because we regarded the joint intervention as entirely politic or prudent, but mainly because France was urgent to interfere and England was anxious for friendship with France. But friendship is apt to grow cold unless the terms are fairly equal and the advantages approximately reciprocal. If the protracted and disappointing negotiations concerning the commercial treaty have tended somewhat to chill the feeling of England towards France, it must be confessed that the policy attributed to M. Gambetta in regard to Egypt is likely rather to enhance than to diminish their effect. The policy of England towards Egypt was clearly defined in Lord Granville's last despatch. England desires to maintain the Control as it exists at present, and, so far as is consistent with its maintenance, to respect the independence

of the Khedive's Government. She certainly has no wish either to extend the area of English and French interference in the internal affairs of the country, or to encourage the interference of any other European Power. We cannot but hope, therefore, that the Khedive will be able to maintain his authority or the disaffected leaders of the Egyptian army and to withstand the incessant intrigues by which, as we learn from our Correspondent at Constantinople, the Sultan is endeavouring to push his own interests in Egypt.

But the people of England would view with serious apprehension any further inpress to announce resolutions before they terference with the internal affairs of are in existence; and this was the ex-Egypt. The idea of a joint Anglo-French would excite the pedient which M. Gambetta, after due re-

gravest misgivings and would only be | flection, thought it best to take. The entertained in any case with the utmost reluctance. We have already gone a long way with France in an enterprise of which we never wholly approved and in which we have never acknowledged the interests of the two countries to be identical. Many Englishmen suffered from the confusion of Egyption finance, but their Government never thought of taking their interests in charge until it was practically compelled to follow in the wake of France, which had yielded to the importunities of the French creditors of Egypt. Very few Englishmen, indeed, and certainly no English Government, would be prepared in forcing the hand of the English Governto go any further in the same direction ; and yet it can hardly be doubted that if French or English troops were landed in Egypt at the p esent moment the de-termining motive in France would be rather the protection of the interests of European bondholders than the maintenance of order in Egypt. Order in Egypt is, at least, as secure now as it was in September, at the time of the revolt of Arabi Bey and the change of the Egyptian Ministry. If it is disturbed again, or if it is seriously threatened, it will be necessary, no doubt, to take measures for its maintenance, and this contingent necessity was fully acknowledged in Lord Granville's despatch. But the premature landing of foreign troops in Egypt would, in the present condition of the country, be the beginning not of tranquillity, but of disturbance, and might easily lead ') ulterior complications of which no one could foretell the end. We may say, frankly and plainly, that the way to cement the long-standing alliance between England and France is not to expect England to follow the lead of France in enterprises commmon to both whenever France is anxious to move, while France is to hold herself free to desert England at a pinch, as she did at Dulcigno and in Greece, and is to make a favour of renewing a Commercial Treaty far more important to France than if is to

A STRANGE STORY.

The part which the Paris correspondent of the Times has played in the negotiations now going on between France and England with reference to Egypt is one which we should not have cared to attribute to him or any less well-informed authority than his own. On Monday last he told us that France and England were agreed on sending the Khedive a joint or identical Note announcing that in the event of tranquillity being disturbed, or his own authority overturned, they were prepared to give him effective support to restore order and protect his authority by the two Governments had of course previously agreed on the mode of procedure in such a case, and the respective share of each of them. On Tuesday the Paris correspondent of the Daily Telegraph gave a very different version of the facts. It is true, he said, that M. Gambetta has prepared a strong Note with the object of despatching it to the French and English Consuls-General at Cairo, and that this Note has been submitted to Lord Granville; but the measures contemplated by M. Gambetta are so serious that the English Cabinet may be expected to weigh well all the consequences before agreeing to them. It appears from to-day's (Wednerday's) Times that this is precisely what has happened. M. Gambetta, the Paris correspondent says, is exceedingly anxious that the two Governments should at once come to an understanding about what is to be done in Egypt; and in order to hasten matters he has himself drawn up a draft that it was unsuccessfully wooed in this guise of instructions to be addressed to the by Mr. Disraeli, who approached it with a French and English agents at Cairo. This letter of recommendation from Mr. Joseph draft was forwarded some days ago to Hume. Mr. Ralph Bernal was more fortunate London, "and it was expected that the than his life-long friend, the late Prime project, being very intelligently con-Minister, in winning the favour of the Buckceived, and combining prudence with energy and resolution, would be promptly sent back with the adhesion of the English Government." Had the English Government done what they were expected to do, the identical instructions to the Consuls would have been communicated to the Khedive at a very unexpected moment, and would thus have made the greater impression alike in the East and in Europe. The secret was not so well kept, however, but that other Cabinets, "little disposed to facilitate the task of France and England, have for some days had a more or less accurate idea of it.' Indeed, the Porte itself has been informed of the proposed joint intervention-" not, indeed, by its direct representatives in Paris or London, but through a more indirect channel, and one more calculated to impress the Ottoman Government "-i.e., Germany. The possession of the secret by other Powers was "evidenced by symptoms of a desire to engage in negotiations on the Egyptian question." In these circumstances "it was deemed that the deliberation with which the English Cabinet seemed disposed to consider the draft instructions" might expose the two Powers to outside interference. When the Times' correspondent says "it was deemed," he obviously meant the words ' by M. Gambetta " to be supplied. It is not likely that the English Government would wish their own deliberations to be hurried by a premature disclosure of the subject of them, though it is quite conceivable that the French Government might wish the English Cabinet to be stimulated to more prompt action. "It was therefore considered " - " by M. Gambetta" being again understoodboth more adroit and more straightforward at once to inform the public of the accord being prepared and doubtless at this moment arrived at between the two Powers." M. Gambetta was so convinced of the excellence of his draft that he felt sure that the English Government would consent to make it their own, and that he would consequently be doing them a kindness by hurrying them into doing at once what they were certain to do in the end. "Hence it seemed "-" to M. Gambetta" understood, as before-"that the moment had come for announcing the resolutions of France and England, and for notifying to the rest of Europe that it need not trouble itself with measures for supplying the inaction of those two Powers." Unfortunately, there were no resolutions of France and England in existence; for "the deliberation with which the English seemed disposed to consider the draft instructions" had made it impossible to arrive at any. It is not of Marlborough. But it was not as a staid debater that Mr. Osborne's chief Parliaimpossible, however, by means of the

announcement that the English Cabinet had approved of a draft which it is only considering, "so far from being an indis-cretion, was the deliberate result of a well-inspired purpose." If M. Gambetta, wishing to force the hand of the English Government, had made use of the Journal Officiel or the République Française, it would have called for no remark from us. It is not for Englishmen to judge the standard of diplomatic propriety which it pleases a French Minister to set up for himself. But when he employs the correspondent of an English newspaper as his instrument ment, and that correspondent proudly declares that he has been chosen for this high purpose, the combination is so remarkable that it ought not to pass without

DEATH OF MR. BERNAL OSBORNE. Mr. Ralph Bernal Osborne died on Wednesday evening at Bestwood Lodge, the seat of his son-in-law, the Duke of St. Albans, near Nottingham. The following biographical notice of the deceased gentleman is taken from the Daily Tele-

The death of Mr. Ralph Bernal Osborne awakens quite as widespread an interest as if it had occurred at a moment when the lamented gentleman occupied a seat in Parliament. Born in 1814, or, perhaps, two or three years earlier—as Mr. Osborne was in the habit of jokingly admitting, when pressed about his exact age by contemporaries, like Sir John Stanley Errington and Lord Vivian, who had entered the army about the same time with himself—the late Member for Waterford, which was the last of many constituencies that he represented in the House of Commons, was no ordinary man. It is too much the fashion to speak of Parliamentary humourists, who have won part of their fame by their lively sallies of wit and sarcastic banter, levelled on occasion alike at grave Ministers of State and at obscure unofficial Members of the House, as though they owed their success chiefly to mirthfulness and audacity. The truth, however, is that sarcasm and raillery, when deftly emnat sarcasm and railiery, when defliy employed, are—like invective, according to the well-known definition of Lord Beaconsfield—" great ornaments of debate," demanding to be successful, extensive knowledge, fine taste, and a natural talent. That Mr. Bernal Osborne knew when and how to employ these valuable gifts of an aggressive debater will be admitted by all his contemporaries in Parliament. Before adverting, however, to Mr. Osborne's connection with the House of Commons, which commenced when he was returned for High Wycombe in 1841, and ended when he was beaten at Waterford City in 1874, let us turn for a moment to his earlier career. He was the eldest son of Mr. Bernal, who, having long represented Rochester in Parliament, created even after death no slight amount of excitement in artistic circles when his rare and valuable collection of antiquities and curiosities was offered for sale under the auctioneer's hammer. Mr. Ralph Bernal-for such, until 1814, was the name of the gentleman who breathed his last yesterday in Nottinghamshire-was gazetted ensign in the 71st Regiment of Foot in 1834, and exchanged before long into the 7th Fusiliers. He was extremely popular in both regiments from his high spirits and brilliant humour, and no story was more frequently upon his lips than one in which he related the circumstances under which he first became a candidate for a seat in the House of Commons. He had accompanied some of his brother officers to a racing-meeting in Ireland, at which a happy investment of some small stake happened to convert his spare cash into two hundred pounds, and at the same time overtures were made to him to become a candidate for Parliament. With that fund in his pocket he came hurriedly over to England, when the general election in July, 1841, was at hand. High, Wycombe was then a borough which was supposed likely to return an advanced Liberal; and it will be remembered

inghamshire constituency; nor was it long before the new representative of High Wy-combe gave abundant evidence in the House of Commons that he was destined to make his mark as a Member of Parliament. Having left the Army, Mr. Bernal soon took a step which was of material advantage to him in fighting the battle of life. In 1844 he won the hand of the daughter and only child of Sir Thomas Osborne. He assumed his wife's name by Royal licence, and with her he received an estate in Ireland, and a fortunate which, although not large, was more than sufficient to establish his independence, and to exonerate him from the imputation, so damaging in this wealthy country, to a young Member of Parliament, of making

speeches and shaping his political course with a view to obtaining office. That he played his cards well at St. Stephen's between 1841 and 1847, is attested by the fact that in the latter year he was a candidate for the county of Middlesex, for which he and Lord Robert Grosvenor, now Lord Ebury, were returned in opposition to Colonel Wood. Mr. Osl orne's lively speeches on the hustings served greatly to enhance his reputation as a platform orator, and it was admitted by Lord Beaconsfield—a most com-petent authority upon such a subject—that, with the exception of the late Mr. James Clay, who so long sat for Hull, there was no better or more telling hustings speaker in Parlia-ment than Mr. Osborne. The pages of 'Hansard's Parliamentary Debates'

how frequently Mr. Osborne's voice was heard in the House of Commons after 1847, but one of the best speeches that he ever delivered was on the Address, which Mr. Heywood moved and Mr. Adair seconded, when the new Parliament met in the November of 1847. Turning his attention chiefly to the condition of Ireland, with which he had become connected by his wife's property, the Member for Middlesex remonstrated against the perpetual Coercion Acts which were the sole remedies suggested by Ministers of all parties to heal the chronic woes of the sister island. A Coercion Bill," said Mr. Osborne, "will be a mere palliation; nor would a Landlord and Tenant Bill be of any avail, for, so long as you have a labouring class badly fed and worse paid, you may expect to have perpetual outrage and disturbance; and these will con-tinue until some fundamental measure is adopted for improving and raising the social condition of the labouring classes. The present time loudly demands that the whole state of Ireland be put upon a better footing. He did not wish to see the abolition of the Church of England in Ireland, but he did think that by putting it on a congregational, and not on a territorial, footing the way might be paved for better things. Without some such measure you will go on for years in the same vicious circle of the commission of outrage, and the repeated enactment of futile coercive measures." It is interesting to remark that in 1847 the abolition of the "garrison church" in Ireland was not contemplated by the most advanced Liberals. Mr. Osborne was returned again for Middle-sex in 1852, after a hard fight, in which he just defeated Lord Blandford, now the Duke

mentary laurels were won. It was as a Free

Lance, who was always ready to assail the

most distinguished Ministers, and especially Sir James Graham, that the Member for Middlesex became a power in Parliament. His light and easy banter, and the dexterity with which he extracted fun from every sub-ject that he handled, conduced to make Mr. Osborne's speeches generally popular in the country, and having sat for ten years as Member for Middlesex, he had no difficulty in obtaining a new seat at Dover when the general election of 1857 came round. In the Ministry formed by Lord Aberdeen

in December, 1852, Mr. Bernal Osborne ac-

cepted office, for the first and only time in his

ife, as Secretary of the Admiralty, under Sir James Graham, against whom many of his liveliest diatribes had been launched in Parliament. His tenure of office, for the prosaic details of which he had little aptitude or taste, was not long continued, and when he reappeared, as member for Dover, in 1857, his position as a Parliamentary Independent with his hand against every man and a jest or epigram ready for every occasion, became more sharply accentuated and defined. He lost his seat at Dover in April, 1857, to reenter Parliament in August of the same year as member for Liskeard. Having resigned his seat for the Cornish borough in 1865, Mr. Osborne remained out of Parliament until he was sent there once more by Nottingham in the May of 1866. Returned for the city of Waterford in 1870, Mr. Osborne failed four years later to hold his seat, and had the mortification of seeing two Home Rulers, Mr. R. Power and Major O'Gorman, chosen in his stead. He told his friends, upon returning from the Irish election in 1874, that he would infinitely prefer facing the Nottingham "lambs" to offering himself again to a Waterford constituency. His absence from Parliament, where he had made for himself a distinct and peculiar position, was greatly missed, and the belief was generally held that a seat would soon be found for him. In this expectation, however, he was doemed to be disappointed, and his place in Parliament knew him no more. The charms of social life in London compensated him in some measure for his exclusion from the House of Commons, and the marriage of his second daughter to the Duke of St. Albans in 1874 was the source of happiness on all sides, and of personal satisfaction to himself. Much of his time was spent, when he was in the country, at Bestwood Park, where he expired; but in London no habitue of the West-end was more universally welcomed as a guest at the hospitable tables of his many friends. Dividing his time between the Reform Club, of which he had for years been a popular member, and the houses of acquaintances, who were always glad to receive him, and to listen with hearty appreciation to his sprightly talk, Mr. Bernal Osborne during the last few years of his life found himself little in harmony with the foreign policy of the Liberal party. His keen criticisms were always, however, tempered with a genial glow, and the rapier of his wit -as polished as it was sharp-made clean and curable wounds. His loss will be widely felt in society and by the country at large, which does not possess too many politicians who know how to mingle strong opinions with calm sense and fine temper. Nor will there be any indisposition among those who sat with him in Parliament to recognise that longed have no part with the mere jester or the unkind satirist, but that their position is attained, next to the native dower of bright talent, by wise knowledge of the ways of the world, and by the exercise of a nice discrimination and an unfailing fact.

POLITICAL GOSSIP.

The London correspondent of the Manchester Guardian wrote on Tuesday night: It is generally believed that one of the greatest difficulties of the Government next session will be consequent on the attitude of the Irish landlords and their friends towards the Act of last year. If the Conservatives can frame a motion dealing with the complaint so forcibly expressed in the landlords' meeting of this afternoon in such terms as to obtain the vote of the exasperated Parnellites, together with the support of men like Mr. Heneage on the Ministerial side, it is thought they may go near to placing the Government in a minority, or at all events in a position of some difficulty. Of course no one can foresee the circumstances of a future session, but politicians who pretend to be prescient say there is no other prospect so favourable to the Conservative desire to obtain a large vote against the Government. It is said that the most probable form of such a motion would be to the effect that where a landowner felt aggrieved by the decision of the Commissioners in regard to the fixing of a fair rent he should be able to force a sale of the holding, to be completed through the action of the Government. money clause, could not properly originate in

This somewhat resembles the proposal of Lord Lansdewne when the Land Bill was in Committee, which the Marquis found, as a the House of Lords, and could not be introduced by way of a private member's amendment in the House of Commons. But it is thought that in this direction a resolution might now be framed which would have the support of Mr. O'Donnell and his friends, as well as of all those who from the point of view of the "rights of property" look with apprehension upon the operation of the Land

The studied persistence with which Mr. Gladstone makes every idea of legislation for this year hang upon the reform of the rules of procedure in the House of Commons has led to a belief that he will discuss with his colleagues the consideration whether it would not be advisable to give this great matter precedence of all other business. The statement which is published to-day on the authority of a news association concurs with what was made known as to Mr. Bradlaugh's opportunity in this correspondence before Christmas. Under ordinary rules Mr. Bradlaugh can make his claim the first business of the session in accordance with the standing order directing that members shall be sworn before the Royal Speech is read at the adjourned sitting and the motion is made for the Address. The belief is that Mr. Bradlaugh will be disposed of much in the form of last year, that the motion preventing him from being sworn at the table will be carried by the votes of many and the abstention of thers, and that if the rules are not reformed before the subsequent debate on the Address much time will be wasted, which, however, will have the effect, if it be allowed, of reviving strongly in the House the desire for a less dilatory procedure. It has been suggested to the Government that probably the best way of dealing with the evil of motions for adjournment in connection with questions would be simply for the Speaker, with the support of the House, to give logical effect to the existing order that a question must not be connected with matter of argument or debate. This is strictly enforced in the putting of questions, and, by reasonable argument, should be followed in reply. There is some apprehension that the Government proposals may depart from the line of least possible change which it is the desire of most members to adhere to. There is no probability of the Government adopting any proposal like that advocated by Mr. Frederic Harrison, by which the House of Commons would elect, upon Mr. Hare's plan, a sort of governing body of 65 members. But that such a proposal should be made by a publicist of weight serves to show how much ground there is for alarm that changes of unnecessary extent may be advocated. The House of Commons, it is believed by experienced members, will be found a very conservative body in regard to its procedure, and there is a wide consensus of opinion among outside members that it will be far better to

proceed in the way of restricting obstructive and superfluous debate in strengthening the control of the House through the Speaker over its members and procedure than by any form of delegation of the authority of the House to any section, however select and important, of its members.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE " WORLD.") When the inevitable serious accident occurs, but not before, we may expect that the dangerous nuisance of galloping dogs in Rotten Row will be stopped. Just now it is in full force. The lady with the pug has re-entered the lists. The elderly sportsman. with the hunting-whip and the pack composed of one fox-terrier, canters leisurely up and down. Colleys rush out from the side-walks, and snap at the horses' heels. When one adds to all this the total disregard of anything like "rule of the road" shown by the young gentlemen with paucity of coat-tail, now home for the holidays, and the young ladies. with their attendant grooms, who gallop furiously, at their own sweet will, it will be seen that park-riding just now is not so plea-

Lord Rosebery has taken Lansdowne House, and has leased it from the Marquis of Lansdowne for a term of seven years.

sant as it might be.

The Duke of Leins er's reduction of rent is estimated at £6,000 a year, and the establishment at Carton is being proportionately diminished. Eleven persons attached to the house and stables have been discharged this

Sir William Rose, Clerk of the House of Lords, and brother of Lord Strathnairn, had the misfortune to wound a man last week when shooting in his preserves at Leiston, in Suffolk. The man was a beater, and was hidden behind a hedge; he received the full force of a shot directed at a passing rabbit. Fortunately, though a good deal damaged about the body and face, the poor fellow is in

a fair way to recovery.

It was melancholy to see Mr. Robert Watson, M.F.H. of the Carlow Hunt, take leave of his field on Chrismas-eve. He has been Master for twenty-five years, and his father and grandfather were M.F.H.s before him ever since the pack was started, over half a century ago; and, furthermore, there is a youthful son ready to carry on his hereditary distinction if the Land Leaguers don't get everything their own way. There is a grain of dignity, however, in the stoppage of the Carlow Hunt not to be found in the neighbouring counties of Kilkenny, Wexford, etc. The sportsmen have agreed amongst themselves to stop before they are driven to it by menaces, and on the first suspicion of hostile feeling in Carlow, Mr. Watson boldly decided to abandon his hereditary honours for a season at least.

The matrimonial market has not been lively or buoyant in Ireland of late years. How could it, when "settlements" were so vague and unascertainable? But among the approaching "arrangements" may be named that of the Hon. Arthur Browne, Lord Kilmaine's brother, and Miss Grace, of County Roscommon. Mr. Browne is, perhaps, the best game and pigeon shot in Ire-land, but the domestic dove has pinioned him at last.

Another exception to the dearth of marriages in Ireland in these unsettled times crops up in "the matrimonial arrangement between Colonel Byng, heir-presumptive to the Torrington peerage, and Miss Jameson, of Montrose, near Donnybrook, Co. Dublin. Colonel Byng is attached to the Lord-Lieutenant's staff, and served recently in South Giulietta Arditi leaves the stage and mar-

ries. What is the good of taking all possible trouble to give a girl every talent, develop all her faculties which education can further, and then, when the fruit, cared for and nursed for twenty years, is ripe, the bride-groom simply walks in, plucks it, and, for better or worse, marches himself off with the

He who has plucked the fruit in this case is Mr. Romaine Walker, son of the Vicar of St. Saviour's Church, St. George's-squarequite able to build up a fortune, as he is an architect.

Some morning performances of She Stoops to Conquer, with Mrs. Langtry as the hero-ine, will shortly be given at the Haymarket. Meanwhile the rehearsals of Ours, in which the new actress takes a part, are being pro-

The recent deaths of Captain Robert Goff and his intimate friend, Captain Pack-Beresford, take us back a quarter of a century to one of the palmiest epochs of Irish racing. Contemporary with the two good sportsmen that have just been cut off with similar suddenness, within a few days of each other, were the present Marquis of Drogheda, Lord Lurgan, Captain Machell, and Sir Thomas Burke; whilst amongst the choice spirits which have since passed away may be men-tioned Lord Howth, Ned Irwin, George Bryan, Christopher St. George, Disney, Tom Newcomen, Mr. Longfield, Captain Gray, Michael Dunne, John Courtenay, Colonel Westenra, the Marquis of Conyngham, Dr. O'Reilly, "Dog" Moore, George Vaughan, and "Noble Henry," the famous Marquis of Waterford.

Let me warn travellers going south not to be imposed upon by the official notice indus-triously circulated that the new St. Gothard route will be open by the 1st of January. It is true that trains are expected to run through the tunnel itself; but the lines of communication with the tunnel cannot be completed, as I have already announced, before the middle of next year. Until then, the steamboats from Lucerne, across the lake to Fluelen, and the diligence thence to Goschenen, will run or dawdle as of old. From Goschenen, where the tunnel begins, to Airolo, where it terminates, is the only new portion of the route performed by rail. On the southern side down to the lakes the journey will be completed as any one remembers it for the past ten vears.

Every one is turning his attention to fires in theatres; but no one seems to consider the more important one of a fire breaking out in a house containing sets of chambers and series of flats. If a fire were to take place at one of those gigantic mansions in Victoria-street, I fear the inhabitants would have but little chance of escape; and if a conflagration were to occur in Queen Anne's Mansion, I tremble to think what the consequences would be.

The rumour is not to be implicity relied on that Mr. Darwin is about to follow up his issue of a volume of Vers de Société. Hampshire has lost a notability by the death, through blood-poisoning, on Christmas-eve, of Colonel J. Jolliffe, of the Royal Marines. An indefatigable antiquary, he rendered valuable aid to his uncle, the late Major Smith, in the compilation by the latter of a glossary of Isle of Wight words; and the Dialect Society have now in their hands for publication extensive notes which he had prepared on Hampshire folklore, while he was also collaborating a history of Ports-

In calling the other day upon a well-known A.R.A., I found I had been preceded by a somewhat curious visitor, or rather by a visitor who had come upon a curious mission. The stranger had produced from a large portfolio a number of cuttings from various newspapers, consisting of criticisms upon works exhibited by the A.R.A. at several metropolitan and provincial exhibitions; and he had explained to my friend that his occupation in life was to hunt up these fragments of criticism, and dispose of them to the persons most interested at the modest price of sixpence each. A few cuttings and a few sixpences had changed hands, and the distri-butor of critical wealth had gone on his way

I have read several times lately, in the news from Ireland, of lads being arrested for whistling at the police the air "Harvey Duff," the latest offender being but thirteen years of age, and the day Christmas-day. As I do not know the subject of this objectionable song, I am naturally a little astonished at such severe measures being taken against mere boys, especially when I recollect that many years ago the urchins of London had full enjoyment of the liberty to call after every "peeler" the question, "Who stole the goose?" in memory of a too toothsomely larcenous member of the force.

THE FIRE RISKS OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

We referred some weeks since to some of

the perils of the electric light, but the subject has by no means received the attention its importance demands. Every day fresh developments of electricity are reported, every week the new illuminant is introduced into some new town; but all the while hardly a single municipality has ventured to suggest that the conditions should be enforced which are indispensable for safety. There will be a great fire some day, and then, after the mis-chief is done, people will bethink themselves of doing, at great expense, what could now be done almost without outlay. Nothing can be more absurd than the fool's paradise in which some people seem to be living as to the safety of theatres lighted by electricity. No doubt the electric light is free from some of the dangers of the general petron it has dangers of its own not less serious. Many believed that the cause of the frightful catastrophe at Vienna was due to the wires coming in contact with each other; but even if that was contact with each other; but even if that was not the case the narrow escape of the Germania Theatre from destruction by a fire kindled by the wires is sufficient to prove how mistaken is the notion of the security of the electric light. Not so long ago the woodwork over the entrance of one of the New York theatres was set on fire by a break in the insulator, which brought the naked wire in contact with the wood. The current fired the wood and melted the lead with which the wood was overlaid. Three with which the wood was overlaid. Three distinct cases of fire were traced in New York to the heating of the metal staples by which the wires were fastened. Besides imperfect insulation and improper conductors, there is a most fruitful source of fire in the dropping of sparks in incandescent carbon from the globes upon inflammable material below. A fatal disaster occurred in Pennsylvania from this cause. The Randolph Mills were burned down by particles of white-hot carbon falling on warps of yarn. Every light should be enclosed in a globe, every chimney furnished with spark arresters; and even then it is impossible absolutely to prevent danger, for the globe may be broken by the excessive heat at the very moment when it is most necessary that it should remain intact. Another source of danger which is dreaded by the New York insurance companies is that the rays of a powerful are light may be focussed by the globe so as to ignite inflammable materials—say in a shop window. This can be avoided by the use of globes of porcelain or ground glass, but at present no security is insisted on against this or any other danger connected with the use of electricity. The matter is primarily one for the municipal authorities and the fire brigade. But the fire insurance companies are almost as directly interested in the subject. What are they doing to guard against the new risks? The American fire insurance companies have taken action, and have drawn up five resolutions for the regulation of the electric light in all premises insured by them. Their English brethren would do well to follow suit. They will not have long to wait before they learn by painful experience how serious an addition the electric light has made to the risks against which they insure their customers. That, however, is their look-out. They have had fair warning, but they are rich enough to pay for their experience. There is one point, however, on which we wish to say a word in concluding. The electrical exhibition has been partially opened in the Crystal Palace. When the exhibition was at Paris there were no fewer than five fires caused in the Palais de l'Industrie by the electric current. They were not serious —that is to say, they were promptly extinguished; for every fire becomes serious if it is allowed to burn. But the Palais de l'Industrie is nothing but a gigantic barn or warehouse in which the exhibitors had the whole place to themselves. But the Crystal Palace is altogether another affair. It is crowded with all kinds of inflammable material. One end of it was burned down some time ago. We hope that was the last fire the Palace is destined to suffer, but we cannot altogether repress a certain feeling of uneasiness at the thought of the establishment of hundreds of wires, each pulsating with thunderbolts, in the heart of such an edifica as the Crystal Palace .- Pall Matt Gazette.

OUTRAGES BY SOLOMON ISLANDERS. Particulars of an attack made upon the trading schooner Atlantic by the natives of Rubinia are given by the Melbourne Argus. It seems that a plan had been arranged by the Rubinia natives to attack, and if possible capture the Atlantic, in order to get a supply of skulls. The co-operation of a chief who had hitherto been supposed to be friendly to the whites was secured with some difficulty. He, in order to lull all suspicion, slept on board the Atlantic the night previous to the attack. At early morn his people, who were unarmed, came off in canoes, their ostensible purpose being to trade with the crew. During the day a canoe owned by Rubinia people joined the others, having arms concealed about their persons. The mate of the vessel, who was rendered suspicious by his experience of the frequent massacres at these islands, took the precaution to see that the arms of the men were all ready for any emergency. He was walking the deck carrying a bayonet in his hand and pretending to clean it, when suddenly, as if by instinct, he felt he was about to be attacked from behind. He sprang aside, and the blow intended to cleave his skull, missed its mark, inflicting a comparatively slight wound on his shoulder. Quick as lightning he plunged his bayonet through the body of his assailant. A general mélée ensued on board, but the crew being prepared the natives found themselves overmatched and fled, having killed but one of the crew of the Atlantic, a black boy, while on their side a number were shot during the short but fierce struggle which occurred. H.M.S. Miranda, on receipt of this information, proceeded to Jurio, calling on the way at the island of Ronongai, in order to secure the services of well-known friendly chief, named Sandy, as a guide. The vessel stood off and on whilst an armed boat was sent ashore, guided by Captain Cable, the master of a regular trading schooner, in search of Sandy's village. Having arrived opposite the spot, they entered into triendly conversation with four unarmed natives, who informed them that Sandy's village was close at hand, but that he was absent. Whilst they were talking, two natives seized an aumunition-pouch and some clothing off the bow seat and decamped, and simultaneously a number of other armed with tamphants. other, armed with tomahawks, were ob-served walking down towards the boat. Captain Cable cried out to the crew to prepare their rifles, on hearing which the natives vanished like magic. Next day an armed boat was again sent on shore, Captain Cable accompanying the lieutenant in charge, for the purpose of demanding the restoration of the property stolen from the boat the day previous. They were met by a large number of well-armed natives, who assumed a most menacing attitude in the dry bed of a river, studded with immense boulders, behind which they hid themselves whilst a parley was held. It resulted

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A Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 5-6, 1882. THE EUROPEAN PROSPECT. The profound distrust which a succession of wars and rumours of wars has engendered in the public mind, and the obligation under which the Rulers of powerful States still seem to lie of maintaining vast bodies of men under arms, are quite enough to account for the nervous, we might almost say the credulous, anxiety so widely entertained concerning the longcontinued preservation of public peace. But we have good grounds for pointing out that there are not a few solid and satisfactory reasons for contemplating the general European Situation, as far as the issues of peace and war are concerned, with less concern than it appears to inspire in the breasts of many too nervous observers of Continental affairs. It is now nearly eleven years since peace was signed between Germany and France. How many people believed that so long a period would elapse without our having to witness the outbreak of a fresh conflict between these two Powers? Why has it not occurred? Why have so many confident prophecies been incorrect, and why has general expectation been baffled? It cannot be because France has failed to recover her strength to the degree that was expected of her. On the contrary, her recovery of strength, of be easy. A correspondent of the St. James's wealth, and of organisation, has been Gazette objects to the scheme on two grounds: so rapid that it has been regarded as little short of miraculous. On the other hand, it cannot be in consequence either of any subsidence of the fears of Germany lest the French people should again prove themselves formidable antagonists, seeing that nowhere is the power of France more respected than in the Fatherland. But so it is, that as the years roll on the two countries seem to be farther off rather than nearer to a renewal of their old struggle, and at the present moment they seem less likely to fight than they were four or five years ago. The truth is, both France and Germany have to take other things into account beside their own policy, their own armies, and their own national sentiments. Were any one to confine his attention to the news from Italy, he might not unreasonably be led to conclude that from that country might at any moment proceed the spark that is to set Europe in a blaze. The Italians for a time cried out for that portion of their neighbour's territory which it pleased them to call Italia Irredenta. Then they professed themselves dissatisfied with the Treaty of Berlin. Next they were wounded and irritated by the action of France in Tunis. At the present moment the Pope is suppposed to be causing them much anxiety. But on each of these occasions, some good and efficient reason can be discovered why the Italians are content to bark and abstain from biting. Just as Germany, before attacking France or France before attacking Germany, would have to ascertain and allow for the disposition of other Powers, so Italy has been compelled to inquire if the preponderance of European strength could be secured for the assertion of the claim to the Trentino, for opposition to the French Protectorate in Tunis, or for dislike to the Austrian occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. On the whole, the Italians find that it is

better to "sit still," just as France and

Germany have found it better to sit still.

No doubt a world of intrigues and con-

spiracies are in motion at the present

moment, that more or less threaten the

maintenance of European peace. But the

persons who are intriguing have to get

the balance of military power on their

side before venturing to appeal to the

sword; and this is by no means an easy

operation. The various schemes, ambi-

tions, and aspirations that are to be dis-

cerned on the Continent counterbalance

each other. One State is deterred from

setting its armies in motion out of fear or

ignorance as to what neighbouring

States would do if that decisive

step were once taken. Thus, though

phrase "an armed camp"

still applicable to the Continent, the

various Armies that constitute it may be

regarded, in one sense, rather as police

employed by the different States to watch

each other. They are like our own army

and constabulary in Ireland, which are

purely defensive, and may remain purely

defensive for an indefinite time. It will,

perhaps, be said that this is to reduce

their existence to an absurdity, since every

State would be equally safe if no State

maintained a large armed force. But it is

an absurdity that is uncommonly like a

truth; and if the Great Powers could be

persuaded of it, the condition of mankind

would be sensibly ameliorated. There is

yet another reason for taking comfort amid

all the ugly and disquieting rumours that

reach us daily; and it is this. The great

Continental Rulers have something more

to think of besides setting large armies in

motion for wars of aggression. Domestic

politics in all these countries grow yearly

more and more embarrassing and more

and more pressing, and though it may be

true that weak Governments sometimes

resort to war to escape the embarrassments

of peace, it is much more true, as a rule.

that internal politics divert the attention

both of rulers and the ruled from the

territory and the affairs of their neighbours.

Whether we regard M. Gambetta, Prince

Bismarck, Count Kalnoky, Signor Depretis,

harassed just at present by domestic questions, and how to keep the peace at home may well occupy their thoughts far more than how to instigate war abroad. M. Gambetta has, after long procrastination, assumed the reins of power, but the event which was to bring consternation to Europe has only brought embarrassment to himself. Yet, difficult as may be the position in which he finds himself, his perplexities are exceeded by those of the Imperial Chancellor; while nobody would believe in the stability of the Cabinet presided over by Signor Depretis, were it not that that Statesman seems to have acquired the art of becoming a political fixture. All these considerations, and they might be added to serve to encourage the hope that though the cry of "Wolf!" is still perpetually being raised, it will still prove a false alarm. It would be unwise to cultivate an apathetic sense of security; but, as the German Emperor has once again declared, the political barometer on the Continent at present points to Fair .-

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.

I shall rejoice (says Truth) when this great work is accomplished. That England should not yet be united to the Continent is a disgrace to the enterprise of the nation. The Tunnel project was first started in 1868 by an Anglo-French committee, with Lord Richard Grosvenor and M. Michel Chevalier at its head. It was shelved during the Franco-German war, but in 1875, an Act passed through Parliament authorising a tunnel to be made from St. Margaret's Bay, whilst at the same time authority was given to a French company to make a tunnel from France. The two were to meet in mid-channel, and a provisional treaty was signed by English and French commissioners, regulating all inter-national matters in regard to the tunnel. The English bill lapsed through efflux of time, but its promoters have given notice of an identical one, which will be submitted to Parliament next session. The Act of 1875 was exhaustively considered by the Board of Trade and by the Foreign Office, and it was only after this exhaustive consideration that Government gave its assent to the project. I perceive that the old Jingo spirit is not yet dead, and that military critics still wag their pens about the dangers of invasion that would follow the completion of the tunnel. Of course, it would be necessary that the point of departure should be protected by the fortifications of Dover. It is not likely that an army will collect in the Pas-de-Calais, and that it will, as a happy thought, march through the tunnel and take possession of the English end; still, it unquestionably is necessary that this end should either be fortified at a heavy cost, or that it should be where there are already fortifications. In the event of a war with France, the tunnel would be destroyed to an extent that would render it impossible to repair it within a couple of years. This would 1. That it would cause the business life of be dismissed without comment. 2. That the project would not pay. This, it seems to me, concerns the shareholders. But let us take the figures of this correspondent. He assumes that the cost would be £343,000 per mile, or, taking the distance at twenty-two miles, £7,654,600, let us call it £8,000,000. To pay five per cent., consequently, the net earnings would have to be £400,000 per annum, or £1,090 per diem. The tunnel would, of course, have no rolling stock of its own, but would charge the railroad companies using it so much per passenger. Taking one class with another, this would not be less than 5s. per head, and I do not think that there is much doubt but what 4,000 passengers would pass through it every day, one day with another. This would give £1,000. But the real use of the tunnel would be for merchandise. Much from America would be landed in Liverpool, and would, without breaking bulk, pass through it to Germany and to France. All our manufactures would probably take the same route, to avoid breaking bulk. At the same time, the vast importations from the Continent would, in many cases, be brought to us by railroad direct. The only limit to the number of trains passing through the tunnel would, therefore, be the number that could pass through it. Financially, there is not the slightest doubt that, if it can be made, it would prove most successful.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS.

The Prime Minister arrived at his official residence in Downing-street from Hawarden Castle on Thursday evening. He was joined at Chester by the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, who had left Dublin for London expressly to attend the meeting of the Cabinet to-day

We are requested to state that half of the net proceeds of the concert which will be given in aid of the victims of the catastrophe at the Ring Theatre, Vienna, will be given by special desire of Count Karolyi, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, to an English

We learn that since Mr. Errington's private and unofficial mission to the Vatican has come to an end several other persons connected with Ireland have also, on their own responsibility, interviewed the authorities of the Papal Court in order to make known their

views on Irish questions.
We understand that intelligence received by the last mail from official quarters in the Cape Colony is much more encouraging with regard to the probable settlement of the serious difficulty with the Basutos. It is said to be not unlikely that the Government will employ Mr. John Mossat, son of the venerable

missionary, in Basutoland. A correspondent in Natal, who writes on Dec. 3d, calls attention to the singular conduct of the Natal Government in regard to the motion protesting against the restoration of Cetewayo which Mr. Robinson brought forward in the Legislative Council. In the first instance, the Colonial Secretary announced that it was the intention of the Governmen to vote against the motion, but at the adjourned sitting he withdrew his opposition to t, under instructions, it is said, from the Governor. The consequence was that more than one independent member of the Council who would have voted with the Government against the motion had no opportunity of recording their dissent.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM "TRUTH.")

A propos of a silly rumour that the Queen had commanded a dramatic performance at Windsor, a story went round the country papers to the effect that when Dickens and his friends were requested to act The Frozen Deep at the Castle, he declined, because he found that the ladies of his family could not be received as guests by the Queen on the occasion of the performance. The real truth was, that when Sir Charles Phipps wrote to intimate the Queen's earnest desire to witness a performance of the piece, Dickens consulted with all his company before sending an answer, and they unanimously agreed with the view which he had taken from the first that the invitation should be declined, and there were many excellent reasons to justify this course. It was in answer to a second letter from Sir Charles that Dickens suggested that, although he and his friends could not for General Ignaties — they are abundantly | see their way to going to Windsor, yet there | throughout the country.

could be no reason why the Queen should not attend a special performance in London. The hint was eagerly taken, and the performance was given at the Gallery of Illustration. It was successful in every way, and Dickens afterwards declared that they had never had a better audience, for Prince Albert wept bitterly, and the Queen and King Leopold sobbed themselves speechless. After the play a message was sent "behind," requesting that Dickens and Wilkie Collins would wait upon her Majesty. However, they declined to come forth in their costumes, but next day they both received letters, expressing the gratification of the Royal party at the play and its -performance, with a request that a copy of the piece might be sent to Windsor; so it was written out on gilt-edged paper, bound in scarlet morocco, and forwarded to the Castle, where, no doubt, it is still to be

found in the library.

A few years later, after the death of Augustus Egg, Dickens wrote: "Think what a great Frozen Deep lay close under those boards we acted on. 'I heard thee '—I forget what I used to say-' come up from the great deep; and it rings in my ears like a sort of mad prophecy." There are now only three living of the men who played in these performances. Not one of those who have gone

reached his sixtieth birthday.

There is something to be said in favour of the Christmas and New Year's "Cards" which, of late years, have become so popular. Unlike the New Year's presents in France, which are a heavy tax upon many who cannot afford it, they are so cheap that they can ruin no one, nor can they furnish an oppor-tunity for vulgar ostentation to exalt itself. They serve to keep warm friendship, and give those who have quarrelled in the course of the year an occasion for making up their differences without explanations, which always

Lord Shrewsbury is to embark on board his yacht, the Castalia, this week at Toulon, whence "they" go to Naples and Con-

The electric light in the galleries at Burlington House, at the private view on Saturday, was a brilliant success; though people were a little nervous at the sound of the thunder rumbling under the floor, and seemed to think that artificial lightning might be as

dangerous as the real.

The Badminton country has always been afflicted with a large contingent of bumptious Nimrods-thanks to its proximity to Bath and Bristol. Many years ago the late Duke of Beaufort rode up to a sportsman who was holding back the pony on which Lord Worcester (the present Duke) was riding, and, raising his hat, said :—" Would you be good enough, sir, to allow my son to see a little of the sport with his father's hounds."

The Eccles estate in Dumfriesshire, which has been in the market for a considerable period, has just been sold to the Duke of Buccleuch for £23,000, being £2,000 less than the upset price when it was exposed for sale by public roup in Edinburgh. The Duke, inherited the vast estates of the Dukedom of Queensberry in this county, now possesses property within its limits extendng over 260,000 acres.

Sir Richard Wallace's property at New-market is to be laid out in lots for building; it includes the Queensberry House domain, where Lord March held high revel in the ally sharp old times, when even Barry Lyndon found himself "as a little child" among the noble sportsmen on the Heath.

Lieut Ponsonby, on his own showing, thoroughly deserved the censure that the Coroner's jury passed upon him. he deserted the unfortunate girl who killed herself at the suggestion of friends or of his own purpose, matters little. The facts remain that he induced her to give up her situation, and to accompany him to lodgings, and then, having seduced her, sent her £10 and deserted her. I confess that I was rather sorry that the crowd that had assembled around the house where the Coroner was sitting did not get hold of this heartless Lieutenant, and treat him to a little rough discipline.
"Girls," says the Times, in an effusion on

barmaids à propos of this case, " who suffer themselves to be led away have no right to expect constancy on the man's part," which, I suppose, means that Emma Cummins had no right to complain of Lieutenant Ponsonby deserting her so soon as he had induced her to give up her situation and occupy the lodgings which he had taken for her. 'Young women," continues the article, " who are exposed to special danger must learn in time to take care of themselves;" for, desertion being the "recognised part of the game, it is of little use to employ hard names about it," as "it will be repeated all the same while human nature, and the laws and customs of society continue as they are. Had Lieutenant Ponsonby merely induced his victim to leave her situation in order to live with him, he would only have acted as many others have done and probably will do. But I entirely deny that either human nature or the laws and customs of society were an excuse for his almost immediate desertion of her, and this is why the jury, the coroner, the mob around the inquest-house, and all journals, with the exception of the Times, regard him as a scoundrel. The young men who hang about bars and flirt with the barmaids are not the noblest specimens of the human race, but I doubt if half-a-dozen amongst them could be found to follow the

example of Lieutenant Ponsonby, R.N.

The estimated cost of the Law Courts, designed by the late Mr. Street, is £900,000, exclusive of special fittings. This will bear a favourable comparison with the expenditure upon the Palais de Justice at Brussels, the erection of which cost £1,666,666. From what I hear, the Judges are by no means in ecstasies with them. The courts, they say, are small and stuffy, and the rooms are large and draughty.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, THURSDAY.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Waterpark; and her Majesty walked with the Princess this morning. Lord Rowton and Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal Family yesterday. Lord Rowton left Osborne to-day.

Earl Granville came up to London on Thursday afternoon by mail train from Dover. He drove direct to the Foreign Office, and had an interview with Sir Charles Dilke. Sir Rivers Wilson returned to London o Thursday morning from Paris, where he has been negotiating for a commercial treaty.

On Thursday night Lieut.-Colonel White C.B., V.C., was presented with an address in Ballymena congratulating him on his return from India and the honours which he had won during the Afghan campaign. A marriage is arranged, and will shortly take place, between Major the Hon. George Napier, son of General Lord Napier of Magdala, and Alice, only daughter of Mr. James Beech, of Brandon Lodge, Coventry,

and The Shawe, Staffordshire. Lady Bolton died at Bolton Hall, North Yorkshire, shortly before nine o'clock on Wednesday morning, after an illness of nearly 12 months. Lady Bolton was the youngest daughter of Colonel Crawfurd, of Newfield, Ayrshire, and married in 1844 her cousin, the Hon. William Henry Orde-Powlett (now Lord Bolton), by whom she

had three sons and a daughter. It has not yet been definitively settled where Mr. Osborne's remains will be interred. Meanwhile marked sympathy is felt for the Duke and Duchess of St. Albans, who have received numerous messages of condolence from various distinguished personages FREAKS OF FASHION.

Since Englishwomen began to be a law fashion of their clothing shall be, a sincerity that in some instances is simply appalling has been the order of the day. With a frankness that may theoretically be a virtue, but when carried to extremes quite topples over to vice's side, they have shown to the world every defect and shortcoming that the Frenchwoman when she led the fashions, habitually and carefully concealed. Was it not Englishwomen who introduced the coiffure which consists in dragging the hair into a tight little knot at the back of the head? And what terrible heads has not this too confiding candour shown to the world! Flat heads, round heads, narrow heads, heads with no back to them worth mentioning, others with no top to speak of, heads on which the bump of benevolence appears as a depression instead of an elevation, as though it had taken effect on the inner instead of on the outer side, heads where self-esteem is conspicuous by its absence, and others where it rises to such a pointed prominence as clearly to indicate an overpowering conceit as one of the possessions of the owner. With a more elaborate arrangement of the hair, these secrets of the cranium would remain unknown, unguessed. True, we should then lose the pleasure of seeing beautiful heads in all their perfection of outline; but, alas! how many ill-formed heads can be counted in these degenerate days, against every one that is well shaped. The proportion is even greater than that of good figures to bad. Here, again, this painful sin-cerity asserts itself. The style of dress of late adopted by Englishwomen, reveals with merciless truth the deficiencies of the average female form. When the lissome Vivien arrayed herself for the conquest of Merlin in a gown "that more exprest than hid her," that wily young person, it may be assumed, knew perfectly well what she was about. Had she been all angles, like many an English maiden of to-day, Merlin's eyes would have rested on puff, frill, and ruffle, instead of the closely clinging robe of samite in which she lithlely wound herself about his knees. Not a single angle is spared us by the present mode. It displays the sharpness of elbow, the scragginess of shoulders, the woodenness of waist, as liberally as it presents to the eye the rounded yet delicate con-tours of a beautiful form. But beautiful forms are in the minority. Tom Moore has truly told us that "the heart that is soonest awake to the flowers is always the first to be touched by the thorns." In the same way the sensitive and cultivated eye and taste to which the curves of beauty most strongly appeal, is that which most acutely suffers in seeing the deficiencies and angular irregularities consequent upon the imperfect development of

Noting the universal adoption of styles so trying to both form and face, one wonders if the unanimity proceeds from a fixed determination to be in the fashion at all risks, or whether every girl or woman who thus ruth-lessly denudes herself of the veiling grace of flowing folds and of Nature's own provision of floating hair, imagines herself to be possessed of such perfection of outline as alone could justify her. Or is it merely a sheeplike following of some acknowledged leading that influences the great majority, sending them unanimously in the same direction? Be this as it may, it is certain that one invariable consequence of a forced sincerity has been apparent for some months—that of a strong reaction in favour of a very decided insincerity. What else can we understand from the advertisements and illustrations of 'scalpettes." which are nothing more nor less than artificial crowns for the cranium covered with hair that is "the dowry of a second head?" To false complexions we have long been accustomed, but to the idea of false busts and artificial hips we shall never be reconciled. Who would care to kiss a manufactured dimple? Alas for Cupid's hiding-place! A most successful trade has recently been carried on by a practitioner in dimples. A writ of ejectment has been served upon the little rosy god. False teeth and false eyes are pardonable falsehoods, but what shall we say of false ears? A lover whispering vows into a tiny, pinktipped ear made of some clever composition. and suddenly catching sight of the real ear, yellow, large, and ugly in its ambush behind the hair, is a ludicrous and a lamentable object. But behind this thick cloud of insincerities is at least a little silver lining, for it proves that every woman does not, after all, imagine herself to be perfect, but recognises, only too practically, the existence of sundry imperfections in her person.

thousands of Englishwomen.

presage of crinoline is by no means so universally adopted as alarmists would have us believe. It is worn chiefly by those who aim at being conspicuous, and these are the very class who run a fashion to death by the vigorous enthusiasm with which they adopt it and rush into extremes with it, thus making it ridiculous and vulgar in the eyes of those who might otherwise have been tempted by it. The best-dressed women in England ignore the crinolette, and though they by no means despise the adventitious aid of the scalpette, the "artistically-modelled corset designed to improve upon nature," or the deft skilfulness of the tailor accomplished in the mysteries of padding, there is yet the charm of consistency and completeness about their attire, consequent upon their being able to command the services of those who bring to their profession the experience of a lifetime, and the artistic skill inseparable from constant practice. Far different is it with those who copy from afar, and burlesque what they seek in all good faith to reproduce. So much for form. Colour, though of secondary importance, is yet worthy of consideration. The esthetic movement, ridiculous as its apostles rendered it, has done much for English taste in this respect. Out of the blind gropings of the school after sublimised and unattainable tints, resulting in bilious, sickly, and most melancholy greens and blues, agonising reds, revolting yellows, miraculous mauves, monstrous terra-cottas, and livid lilacs, has been evolved a true feeling for colour such as never characterised our nation before. Men have little chance of proving this refined taste in colour on their persons, and with them it is displayed in the

The crinolette is an insincerity, but this

decoration of houses. Women absolutely revel in the richness of pure colouring that lies to their hand, and mistakes in the combination of tints become less frequent every year. Glaring eccentricities are now rare enough to prove themselves the exceptions to the general rule of good taste, and the result, in gatherings of well-dressed people, is a harmonious effect of tint to which at one time we English were strangers. The prevalence of dark colours for street wear is another indication of the better taste of recent vears. Manufacturers who followed the march of

colour soon discovered that tint is in a great measure dependent upon texture. A common coarse fabric will not "take" a good shade of colour. An important consequence of this had been the production of uch materials as were never even dreamed of by our grandmothers and great-grandmothers, whose one idea of "bravery in attire" was the silk or satin that could stand alone. To their richness we have now softness superadded. The brocades of to-day, the silks, the satins, the moirés, are of a texture as to do justice to the beauty of the colours in which they are produced. We have, therefore, textures unsurpassed in refinement, colours in every variety of tender hue, and when the errors of a too obtrusive candour are amended, those of a would-becorrective insincerity disappearing in their train. Englishwomen may hope to be the est-dressed women of civilized countries, as Englishmen have long been acknowledged to be the best-dressed men .- Daily News.

CHISLEHURST.

The Central News has issued the fol-

lowing statement:—"We learn that an attempt has been made to-day (Thursday) to enter the vault at Chislehurst for the purpose, it is helieved, of carrying away the bodies of the late Emperor Napoleon and the Prince Imperial The matter, respecting which great reticence is observed, is being investigation. gated by the police authorities." Down to half-past two o'clock on Friday morning the officials at Scotland-yard had received no intim tion from Chislehurst confirmatory of this rumour, which they discredit.

DEATH OF LIEUTENANT-GENERAL THE HON

JAMES MACDONALD, C.B. We (Morning Post) regret to announce the death of Lieutenant-General the Hon. James William Macdonald, C.B., private secretary and equerry to the Duke of Cambridge, which occurred on Wednesday last, at St. Leonardson-Sea. He had been in impaired health for considerable time past, and last winter went to Cannes on account of the unsatisfactory state of his health. He was the second son of Godfrey, third Lord Macdonald, by his wife Louisa Maria, daughter of Mr. Farley Edsir, and was born October 31, 1810, consequently had recently entered his 72d year. He married September 26, 1859. Hon. Elizabeth Nina Blake, daughter of Joseph Henry third Lord Wallscourt, by whom he leaves issue George Godfrey, recently made page of honour to her Majesty, now in his 20th year; and Mary Selina Honoria, now in her 16th year. "Jim Macdonald" was, for many a London season, in the days of Almack's, one of the most popular of fashionable young men. The contemporary of D'Orsay, Cecil Forester, and other successors of the traditions of Brummel and the exquisitely-dressed beaux of a former period, he was an universal favourite from his natural charm and social qualities. When the trumpet of war sounded he proved himself no carpet knight, and throughout the Crimea was in the thickest of the fray, so much so that when it was wondered how he escaped so many dangers, a wit of the period said, "You know white pheasants are never shot at battues," an allusion to the early white hair which he wore in well-ordered profusion. A brave man and a gallant soldier, he won the affection of all who knew him. He lived to do the State some service in the important duties which he discharged with constant care. The Duke of Cambridge and his colleagues will deeply mourn the loss of an assistant and a friend who was never absent in the hours of work and care, but whose good companionship also lightened the more genial hours of leisure. The late general entered the army as an ensign in the 1st Life Guards in Oct., 1829, became lieutenant 24th Jan, 1834, captain 24th June, 1837, major 19th October, 1849, and lieutenant-colonel 12th December, 1854, when he went on half pay. For upwards of thirty years he had been equerry to the Duke of Cambridge, and in July, 1856, was appointed private secretary to his Royal Highness as Commander-in-Chief. He accompanied the Duke as aide-decamp in the expedition to Turkey in 1854. He served throughout the Eastern campaign, including the battles of Alma (horse shot), Balaklava, and Inkerm siege of Sebastopol, and sortie of the 26th October. For his services during the war he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath and a Knight of the Legion of Honour, and received the 5th class of the Medjidie, the Turkish medal, and the Crimean medal with four clasps. He was appointed colonel 1st April, 1860; major-general, 6th March, 1868; lieu!enant-general, 1st October, 1877; and in July, 1880, was appointed colonel of the 21st Hussars. For a long time past he had been deputy ranger of Hyde-park, an office which is in the gift of the Duke of Cambridge.

THE GLASGOW INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL SCANDAL. A Glasgow correspondent wrote on Thursday night :- Proof was laid before Sheriff Dees to day in the action at the instance of Archibald Park on behalf of his daughter, Mary Park, against Jessie H. Wallace, matron of Lochburn Industrial School, Maryhill, claiming £50 damages for the alleged illtreatment of the girl during her stay in the school.—Mr. J. H. A. Macdonald, Q.C., instructed by Mr. W. B. Paterson, writer, was counsel for the pursuer; and Mr. David Rodger, writer, appeared for the defender.—Janet Buntine, a girl of 15, was the first witness. She deposed that Miss Wallace one day in August last said to the girl Park that her father had sent her to the school as he was tired of thrashing her, and that she (Miss Wallace) would now begin and continue thrashing her till she too was tired. She then told the girl Park to lie over a chair. The girl refused. Wallace then then gave her 13 lashes. Miss Greenhill and witness helped to hold the girl down. Miss Wallace next pulled the clothes off the girl. Park went down upon her knees asking Miss Wallace's forgiveness, but Miss Wallace said "No." Park would get about 50 blows altogether. Her body particularly the left side, was all red flesh. Park was quite naked. She was weak after the flogging. Park asked for a drink of water, saying she was dying. Miss Wallace, instead of giving the girl water, dashed it in her face and ordered her to get a spray bath-Mary Jane Park, the female plaintiff, spoke to running away from the school, and being taken back by two of the officials, who promised her if she returned she would not be punished That promise was ignored by Miss Wallace, who, she said, caused her to be held over a chair, and lashed her till she (Miss Wallace) was out of breath-a good part of the flogging being on her bare body. She received about fifty lashes. She was afterwards put into a spray bath for twenty minutes, and next locked up in the surgery for four days. Part of the time she was kept on bread-and-water, and had to lie on the floor, as there was no bed. Miss Wallace told her that if she mentioned the flogging to her father she would get more. Other witnesses were examined, amongst them being Dr. Johnston, who deposed that the marks on the girl's person were strong proof of undue severity. He was not surprised that the flogging produced in the girl a depressed state of mind. To put the girl under a spray bath for ten minutes after a severe flogging with the leather tawse produced was gross inhumanity. The only witness for the d was the defender herself. She said that of 220 girls in the school Park was the worst behaved. She had been warned that if she ran away she would be punished. The punishment in question did not exceed twelve stripes It was without her knowledge that the gir. got bread and water, and when she learned of it she ordered her to receive the regular diet of the house. The spray bath was used for sanitary purposes. The girl was not of purpose flogged naked, but in the struggle her clothing fell off.—Judgment was deferred.

MR. FORSTER AND THE IRISH LANDLORDS. Mr. Forster has addressed the following letter to Mr. Kavanagh, one of the speakers at the recent Landlords' meeting in Dublin:— Irish Office, Great Queen-street, S.W.,

Dear Mr. Kavanagh,—I have to-day had an opportuninty of reading your speech last Monday, and in your remarks about the Subcommissioners under the Land Act I find you reported as saying: "I believe—and I am glad of being able now to make this statement publicly, in order that her Majesty's Government may have the opportunity contradicting it if it is not correct—I believe there have been given secret instructions of a very grave nature, their acceptance of and their compliance with which is a condition of their appointment." As a rule I think it

RUMOURED ATTEMPT TO STEAL better to postpone replies to criticisms, either THE IMPERIAL REMAINS AT spoken or written, until I can make them in Parliament, but upon so important a matter as this I cannot allow a gentleman of your high authority upon Irish affairs, and for whom I have so much personal respect and regard, to labour under a misapprehension. Let me, therefore, at once contradict this statement, for which there is absolutely no foundation whatever, and respecting which you have doubtless been misinformed.-I am, dear Mr. Kavanagh, yours sincerely. W. E. Forster.

THE TRANSVAAL GOLD FIELDS.

The Durban correspondent of the Standard says:—As was expected, the action of the Volksraad in repealing the Proclamation throwing the Gold Fields open to all, and granting to Mr. Benjamin the entire monopoly f them, and thereby ruining the miners who are now working there, has given rise to intense excitement and indignation in that district. The Gold Fields are most flourishing, and the men engaged are doing well. By them the transference of their property to an individual is regarded as robbery. They insist that in California and Australia diggers were always allowed to work for themselves, and that in neither country dared the authorities have taken the step of confiscat-ing the property of all and handing it to an individual. The diggers have formed a Central Committee, who have drawn up a petition protesting against the concession to Mr. Benjamin, and the re-peal of the Proclamation throwing open the Gold Fields. Other proprietors have given the diggers notice not to sell or alienate mining rights, and that none acquired after the 17th of November will be recognised. The Boers of the district sympathise with the diggers, and have joined in the protests against the action of the Volksraad. They consider that the concession to one man of the Fields will close them to all white men, and that the large and increasing sale of their produce to the diggers will so cease. The diggers are determined to do their utmost to protect themselves from ruin, and it is quite possible that if the Government of the Transvaal insist upon carrying out this most unfair transaction, serious trouble will arise. There is news from Pondoland. Uquikela, the paramount chief, has been dangerously ill for some time, but is now recovering. He has been attended by a European doctor who practises in his district. Uquikela has sent out parties to search for Umhlondla, the murderer of the magistrate, Mr. Hope, who is reported to be trying to make his escape into Basutoland. It is believed that he will be captured. Uquikela s shortly going to send a mission to England, to plead his claim to the possession of the mouth of St. John's River, which was occupied by the Cape authorities, and is now held by Imperial troops. The opinion of all moderate men is that the seizure of this post was a most-handed and unjustifiable proceeding. The appointment of Sir Henry Bulwer as Governor has been received with great satisfaction by the majority of Colonists. When here he was not altogether popular, but it is felt that, under the circumstances, no better choice could have been made, as it was absolutely necessary to have a man experienced in the many and varied difficulties which may have to be met in Natal.

THE DISTURBANCES IN THE WEST INDIES .-It appears from advices which have just come to hand from Port-au-Prince, by way of Havannah, that the rebels are still disturbing that portion of the West Indies. Alarming outbreaks are reported from Jeremi, Aux Cayes, and Saint Mare. A sanguinary encounter was said to have occurred at the latter place between a large force under President Solomon and the rebels. According to the despatch, the revolutionary party, which was very strong, ransacked the Government House, and afterwards burnt it. Several other houses were also destroyed in a similar manner. The troops under President Solomon arrived by water, and on landing were engaged by the rebels. A sharp encounter took place, and did not end until about one hundred and fifty of the combatants had been killed. Although President Solomon was reported to have quelled the rising, it was also stated that he had returned to Port-au-Prince for reinforcements. Another outbreak was announced from Santiago, though it was not known in the latest accounts how the matter terminated. President Merino was at Puesta Plata when the news reached him, and he despatched five hundred men under General Lithgow to the scene of the disturbance. A great fire was reported to have taken place at Banion, on the 12th ult., where eleven houses were con-sumed. It was estimated that about a quarter of a million dollars worth of uninsured preperty had been destroyed. The intention of the United States authorities to survey Samana Bay, for which purpose an American war vessel would be employed, was said to be causing much excitement, so much so that the St. Domingo authorities were reporting to be preparing their two war schooners, Thunder and the Capitalla, to watch the proceedings of the American man of war.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSAULT CASE. - In refeence to a statement made in the Derbyshire assault case that the dispute commenced during dinner, Mr. Charles Rowland Palmer More wood, of Alfreton Hall, the prosecutor, writes: "There was no dispute either during dinner or in the smoking-room afterwards, nor was a word said about any pecuniary matters till the demand was made in the library for my signature. I am anxious to put this right, as there seems to be an imression that the assault arose out of a marrel which got warmer as the evening dvanced, whereas it was really committed in cold blood upon my refusal to sign the docu-

THE COLLECTED COMPOSITIONS OF THE PRINCE CONSORT. - Wo understand that Messrs. Metzler and Co., of Great Marlboroughstreet, are, by command of her Majesty, preparing for publication a complete col of the musical compositions, sacred and secu-lar, of the Prince Consort, the whole being produced under the able supervision of Mr. W. G. Cusins, her Majesty's "Master of Musicke." We believe we are violating no confidence in mentioning that the first idea was that this collection should be printed for private circulation only, but on its having been represented to her Majesty that such a work, if publicly issued, would obviously command universal interest, both at home and abroad, a gracious assent to such publication was at once accorded, and the colection will shortly be issued. This is scarcely the time at which to offer any criticism on the Prince Consort's musical abilities, but the high estimation in which Mendelssohn held his Royal Highness's musical attainments, combined with the great appreciation that is everywhere felt for his high personal qualities, naturally leads to the belief that this interesting memento of the departed Prince will necessarily become an object of eager acquisition to all who admire sterling worth and revere honesty of purpose .- Daily

THE FRENCH TREATY NEGOTIATIONS .- From information which the Bradford Chamber of Commerce have received, the terms proposed by the French Government were such that under them the duties on the bulk of the goods exported from the Bradford district would have been nearly doubled, and the British Commissioners had therefore no alternative but to withdraw from the discussion of the new treaty. The French, so far, have refused

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 5-6, 1882.

THE EUROPEAN PROSPECT. The profound distrust which a succession of wars and rumours of wars has engendered in the public mind, and the obligation under which the Rulers of powerful States still seem to lie of maintaining vast bodies of men under arms, are quite enough to account for the nervous, we might almost say the credulous, anxiety so widely entertained concerning the longcontinued preservation of public peace. But we have good grounds for pointing out that there are not a few solid and satisfactory reasons for contemplating the general European Situation, as far as the issues of peace and war are concerned, with less concern than it appears to inspire in the breasts of many too nervous observers of Continental affairs. It is now nearly eleven years since peace was signed between Germany and France. How many people believed that so long a period would elapse without our having to witness the outbreak of a fresh conflict between these two Powers? Why has it not occurred? Why have so many confident prophecies been incorrect, and why has general expectation been baffled? It cannot be because France has failed to recover her strength to the degree that was expected of her. On the contrary, her recovery of strength, of and of organisation, has been so rapid that it has been regarded as little short of miraculous. On the other hand, it cannot be in consequence either of any subsidence of the fears of Germany lest the French people should again prove themselves formidable antagonists, seeing that nowhere is the power of France more respected than in the Fatherland. But so it is, that as the years roll on the two countries seem to be farther off rather than nearer to a renewal of their old struggle. and at the present moment they seem less likely to fight than they were four or five years ago. The truth is, both France and Germany have to take other things into account beside their own policy, their own armies, and their own national sentiments. Were any one to confine his attention to the news from Italy, he might not unreasonably he led to conclude that from that country might at any moment proceed the spark that is to set Europe in a blaze. The Italians for a time cried out for that portion of their neighbour's territory which it pleased them to call Italia Irredenta. Then they professed themselves dissatisfied with the Treaty of Berlin. Next they were wounded and irritated by the action of France in Tunis. At the present moment the Pope is supposed to be causing them much anxiety. But on each of these occasions, some good and efficient reason can be discovered why the Italians are content to bark and abstain from biting. Just as Germany, before attacking France, or France before attacking Germany, would have to ascertain and allow for the disposition of other Powers, so Italy has been compelled to inquire if the preponderance of European strength could be secured for the assertion of the claim to the Trentino. for opposition to the French Protectorate in Tunis, or for dislike to the Austrian occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. On the whole, the Italians find that it is better to "sit still," just as France and Germany have found it better to sit still. No doubt a world of intrigues and conspiracies are in motion at the present moment, that more or less threaten the maintenance of European peace. But the persons who are intriguing have to get the balance of military power on their side before venturing to appeal to the sword; and this is by no means an easy operation. The various schemes, ambitions, and aspirations that are to be discerned on the Continent counterbalance each other. One State is deterred from setting its armies in motion out of fear or ignorance as to what neighbouring States would do if that decisive step were once taken. Thus, though phrase "an armed camp" still applicable to the Continent, the various Armies that constitute it may be regarded, in one sense, rather as police employed by the different States to watch each other. They are like our own army and constabulary in Ireland, which are purely defensive, and may remain purely defensive for an indefinite time. It will, perhaps, be said that this is to reduce

their existence to an absurdity, since every

State would be equally safe if no State

maintained a large armed force. But it is

an absurdity that is uncommonly like a

truth; and if the Great Powers could be

persuaded of it, the condition of mankind

would be sensibly ameliorated. There is

yet another reason for taking comfort amid

all the ugly and disquieting rumours that

reach us daily; and it is this. The great

Continental Rulers have something more

to think of besides setting large armies in

motion for wars of aggression. Domestic

politics in all these countries grow yearly

more and more embarrassing and more

and more pressing, and though it may be

true that weak Governments sometimes

resort to war to escape the embarrassments

of peace, it is much more true, as a rule,

that internal politics divert the attention

both of rulers and the ruled from the

territory and the affairs of their neighbours.

Whether we regard M. Gambetta, Prince Bismarck, Count Kalnoky, Signor Depretis,

or General Ignation-they are abundantly

harassed just at present by domestic questions, and how to keep the peace at home may well occupy their thoughts far more than how to instigate war abroad. M. Gambetta has, after long procrastination, assumed the reins of power, but the event which was to bring consternation to Europe has only brought embarrassment to himself. Yet, difficult as may be the position in which he finds himself, his per-plexities are exceeded by those of the Im-perial Chancellor; while nobody would believe in the stability of the Cabinet presided over by Signor Depretis, were it not that that Statesman seems to have acquired the art of becoming a political fixture. All these considerations, and they might be added to serve to encourage the hope that though the cry of "Wolf!" is still perpetually being raised, it will still prove a false alarm. It would be unwise to cultivate an apathetic sense of security; but, as the German Emperor has once again declared, the political barometer on the Continent at present points to Fair .-

A NEW IDEAL OF GOVERNMENT.

The speeches delivered by Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain supply but little matter for comment so far as their substance is concerned. The junior member for Birmingham seldom speaks indeed without admitting the public to a fuller acquaintance with his political temper and his ways of thought; and on Thursday night he was in an especially candid mood of self-disclosure. He lets us know exactly what is his ideal of good government, and in what respect our present imperfect system of legislation fails to satisfy it. That ideal is as nearly as possible framed upon the model of the organisation which Mr. Chamberlain has worked so successfully in the great town which he represents. On the one hand, there is "the "-meaning thereby the electoral people majority by whom Mr. Chamberlain's party was placed in power; on the other hand, there are the dozen or so of gentlemen who "meet in one room," and who constitute "the only members of the Government" whom Mr. Bright "knows There is, it is true, a Parliament about." also; but this body plays a very insignificant part in the great democratic scheme. It consists of a majority which is, or ought to be, the obedient instrument for carrying out the projects placed before them by that junta of delegates of "the people" who used to be called the Queen's Ministers ; and of a minority which makes it its business to " obstruct" the execution of these projects, and which requires to be suppressed accordingly. What parti-cular projects are to be placed before this minority and forced upon this minority is a matter within the exclusive cognizance of the junta aforesaid: they are contained in a " mandate " theoretically supposed to have been delivered to this little committee of autocrats, but in reality evolved by them out of a consciousness mysteriously furnished with an intuitive knowledge of the people's needs and wishes. There is obviously no place in this system for a deliberative assembly or for the rights, privileges, or methods of procedure which such assemblies are wont to exercise and follow. It reduces all legislation and administration to a simple arrangement between two parties: the "people," meaning the chance majority of the electorate for the time being, and a committee of delegates acting under the authority of a sort of secret plébiscite. It is easy to understand the attractions which such a system possesses for politicians of Mr. Chamberlain's views and temper: what is not easily comprehensible is how men calling themselves Liberals should fail to see in it the realization of as absolute a tyranny as any individual despot, adept at the arts of the demagogue, has ever inflicted on a community .- St. James's Gazette.

difficulties which the existing rules of parliamentary procedure place in the way of legislation was characterised by his customary lucidity and force. Facts speak for themselves with an eloquence which no orator can rival: and Mr. Chamberlain. confining himself to a statement of indisputable facts, proved once more how necessary is the action which the Government is about to take. It is difficult to exaggerate the utter break-down of the parliamentary machine. Three years ago Lord Hartington pointed out that the restoration of the authority of Parliament was the necessary preliminary to any work of internal or social reform, for even then the accumulation arrears of legislation was passing rapidly into the stage of hopeless-The work of restoration has been delayed so long that, to employ Lord Salisbury's metaphor, we cannot even get our bread and butter cut until we sharpen our sabre ; for even non-party legislation is impossible until procedure is reformed. Yet probably the most intrepid reformer will shrink from the changes which will be required before the new code of procedure is made as effective as the unwritten law which prevailed before Obstruction was reduced to a system by Mr. Lowther and Mr. Parnell. The informal cloture which was arranged between the Whips and enforced by the rigorous discipline of party, and the inexorable canons of the social law to which all members used to bow, exercised an effective authority over the deliberations of the House of Commons, which no code that is likely to be accepted for some time yet can possibly exert. If we may judge from ministerial utterances, their proposals will not lack vigour; but here, as elsewhere, the most thoroughgoing proposals are most likely to be accepted by public opinion, because they only will be really efficient .- Pall Mall Gazette.

Mr. Chamberlain's exposition of the

THE EGYPTIAN RIDDLE. Egyptian news at present is little but a

succession of conundrums. Arabi Bey has, it seems, been made Under-Secretary for War; and the military incident is regarded as closed by his appointment:-

The announcement has a singularly occidental appearance, and no surprise need be felt if in a day or two the whole story is de-nounced as apocryphal. It it be true, what becomes of that alarming military dictatorship which has hung like a thundercloud over Egyptian affairs? That an under-secretaryship should convert Arabi from an agitator into a harmless official is perhaps not improbable; but if the army, which does not share his emoluments, is thus suddenly reduced to submission, it is clear that the dangers so eloquently descanted upon during these last weeks have been wholly imaginary. A Gambettist organ energetically denies M. de Blowitz's account of negotiations concern-

ing an Anglo-French interference; and, indeed, that arbiter of European destiny himself must perceive that it is scarcely worth while to move troops, when the whole affair can be settled by throwing a trifling sop to Arabi Bey. This too complete and opportune demonstration that at least two Cabinets have been distressing themselves about nothing, will leave, however, the suspicion that the public has not yet been told the truth about the connot yet been told the truth about the condition of Egyptian affairs. Meanwhile, Gordon Pacha states his views on the Egyptian question. Briefly, they are that Sherif Pacha is probably the only Egyptian Minister whose integrity is unimpeachable; that it is ridiculous to expect any good thing from Tewfik, or any of the class to which he belongs; and that troubles were always inevitable from the chaotic and feable nature of the executor set. chaotic and feeble nature of the system set up in Egypt by the Western Powers. As for the prosperity of Egypt, about which we hear so much, Gordon Pacha laughs at it. The so much, Gordon Pacha laughs at it. The finances, he admits, are prosperous under Egyptian management, but the Egyptian people are as miserable as before. Arabi Bey may be the humbug he is painted by some; but, at any rate, his leading ideas are some; but, at any rate, his leading ideas are enforced by this highly competent and inde-pendent witness. This country, so full of philanthropy where it is not called upon to meddle at all, is actually exploiting Egypt for its own benefit, without any genuine regard for the Fellaheen. Its policy is fundamentally bad, and its interest, as well as the morality it is fond of professing, demands that it should make the encouragement of a national party in Egypt its first aim .- Globe.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE " DAILY NEWS.")

The Prime Minister arrived at his officia residence in Downing-street from Hawarden Castle on Thursday evening. He was joined at Chester by the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, who had left Dublin for London expressly to attend the meeting of the Cabinet to-day

We are requested to state that half of the net proceeds of the concert which will be given in aid of the victims of the catastrophe at the Ring Theatre, Vienna, will be given by special desire of Count Karolyi, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, to an English

charity.

We learn that since Mr. Errington's private and unofficial mission to the Vatican has come to an end several other persons connected with Ireland have also, on their own responsibility, interviewed the authorities of the Papal Court in order to make known their views on Irish questions.

We understand that intelligence received

by the last mail from official quarters in the Cape Colony is much more encouraging with regard to the probable settlement of the serious difficulty with the Basutos. It is said to be not unlikely that the Government will employ Mr. John Mossat, son of the venerable

missionary, in Basutoland.

A correspondent in Natal, who writes on Dec. 3d, calls attention to the singular conduct of the Natal Government in regard to the motion protesting against the restoration of Cetewayo which Mr. Robinson brought for-ward in the Legislative Council. In the first instance, the Colonial Secretary announced that it was the intention of the Government to vote against the motion, but at the adjourned sitting he withdrew his opposition to it, under instructions, it is said, from the Governor. The consequence was that more than one independent member of the Council against the motion had no opportunity of recording their dissent.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, THURSDAY. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Waterpark; and her Majesty walked with the Princess this morning. Lord Rowton and Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal Family yesterday Lord Rowton left Osborne to-day.

Earl Granville came up to London on Thursday afternoon by mail train from Dover. He drove direct to the Foreign Office, and had an interview with Sir Charles Dilke. Sir Rivers Wilson returned to London or Thursday morning from Paris, where he has

been negotiating for a commercial treaty. A marriage is arranged, and will shortly Napier, son of General Lord Napier of Magdala, and Alice, only daughter of Mr. James Beech, of Brandon Lodge, Coventry,

and The Shawe, Staffordshire.

It has not yet been definitively settled where Mr. Osborne's remains will be interred. Meanwhile marked sympathy is felt for the Duke and Duchess of St. Albans, who have received numerous messages of condolence from various distinguished personages throughout the country.

THE TRANSVAAL GOLD FIELDS.

The Durban correspondent of the Standard says:—As was expected, the action of the Volksraad in repealing the Proclamation throwing the Gold Fields open to all, and granting to Mr. Benjamin the entire monepoly of them, and thereby ruining the miners who are now working there, has given rise to intense excitement and indignation in that district. The Gold Fields are most flourish ing, and the men engaged are doing well. By them the transference of their property to an individual is regarded as robbery. They insist that in California and Australia diggers were always allowed to work for themselves and that in neither country dared the authoand that in neither country dared the aumorities have taken the step of confiscating the property of all and handing it to an individual. The diggers have formed a Central Committee, who have drawn up a petition protesting against the concession to Mr. Benjamin, and the re-peal of the Proclamation throwing open the Gold Fields. Other proprietors have given the diggers notice not to sell or alienate mining rights, and that none acquired after the 17th of November will be recognised. The Boers of the district sympathise with the diggers, and have joined in the protests against the action of the Volksraad. They consider that the concession to one man of the Fields will close them to all white men, and that the large and increasing sale of their produce to the diggers will so cease. The diggers are determined to do their utmost to protect themselves from ruin, and it is quite possible that if the Government of the Transvaal insist upon carrying out this most unfair transac-tion, serious trouble will arise. There is news from Pondoland. Uquikela, the paramount chief, has been dangerously ill for some time, but is now recovering. He has been attended by a European doctor who practises in his dis-trict. Uquikela has sent out parties to search for Umhlondla, the murderer of the magistrate, Mr. Hope, who is reported to be trying to make his escape into Basutoland. It is believed that he will be captured. Uquikels is shortly going to send a mission to England, to plead his claim to the possession of the mouth of St. John's River, which was occupied by the Cape authorities, and is now held by Imperial troops. The opinion of all moderate men is that the seizure of this post was a high-handed and unjustifiable proceeding. The appointment of Sir Henry Bulwer as Governor has been received with great satisfaction by the majority of Colonists. When here he was not altogether popular, but it is felt that, under the circumstances, no better choice could have been made, as it was absolutely necessary to have a man experienced in the many and varied difficulties which may have to be met in Natal.

FREAKS OF FASHION. Since Englishwomen began to be a law unto themselves in the matter of what the fashion of their clothing shall be, a sincerity that in some instances is simply appalling has been the order of the day. With a frankness been the order of the day. With a frankness that may theoretically be a virtue, but when carried to extremes quite topples over to vice's side, they have shown to the world every defect and shortcoming that the Frenchwoman, when she led the fashions, habitually and carefully concealed. Was it not Englishwomen who introduced the coiffure which consists in dragging the hair into a tight little knot at the back of the head? And what terrible heads has not this too confiding candour shown to the world! Flat heads, round heads, narrow heads, heads with no back to them worth mentioning, others with no top to speak of, heads on which the bump of penevolence appears as a depression instead of an elevation, as though it had taken effect on the inner instead of on the outer side, heads where self-esteem is conspicuous by its absence, and others where it rises to such a pointed prominence as clearly to indicate an overpowering conceit as one of the possessions of the owner. With a more elaborate arrangement of the hair, these secrets of the cranium would remain unknown, unguessed. True, we should then lose the pleasure of seeing beautiful heads in all their perfection of out -line; but, alas! how many ill-formed heads can be counted in these degenerate days, against every one that is well shaped. The

proportion is even greater than that of good figures to bad. Here, again, this painful sin-cerity asserts itself. The style of dress of late adopted by Englishwomen, reveals with merciless truth the deficiencies of the average female form. When the lissome Vivien arrayed herself for the conquest of Merlin arrayed herself for the conquest of Merlin in a gown "that more exprest than hid her," that wily young person, it may be assumed, knew perfectly well what she was about. Had she been all angles, like many an English maiden of to-day, Merlin's eyes would have rested on puff, frill, and ruffle, instead of the closely clinging robe of samite in which she lithlely wound herself about his knees. Not a single angle is wared us by the knees. Not a single angle is spared us by the present mode. It displays the sharpness of elbow, the scragginess of shoulders, the woodenness of waist, as liberally as it presents to the eye the rounded yet delicate contours of a beautiful form. But beautiful forms are in the minority. Tom Moore has truly told us that "the heart that is soonest awake to the flowers is always the first to be touched by the thorns." In the same way the sensitive and cultivated eye and taste to which the curves of beauty most strongly appeal, is that which most acutely suffers in seeing the

deficiencies and angular irregularities con-sequent upon the imperfect development of thousands of Englishwomen. Noting the universal adoption of styles so trying to both form and face, one wonders if the unanimity proceeds from a fixed determi-

nation to be in the fashion at all risks, or whether every girl or woman who thus ruth-lessly denudes herself of the veiling grace of flowing folds and of Nature's own provision of floating hair, imagines herself to be possessed of such perfection of outline as alone could justify her. Or is it merely a sheep-like following of some acknowledged leading that influences the great majority, sending them unanimously in the same direction? Be this as it may, it is certain that one invariable consequence of a forced sincerity has been apparent for some months—that of a strong reaction in favour of a very decided insincerity. What else can we understand nts and illustrations of "scalpettes," which are nothing more nor less than artificial crowns for the cranium covered with hair that is "the dowry of a second head?" To false complexions we have long been accustomed, but to the idea of false busts and artificial hips we shall never be reconciled. Who would care to kiss a manufactured dimple? Alas for Cupid's hiding-place! A most successful trade has recently been carried on by a practitioner in dimples. A writ of ejectment has been served upon the little rosy god. False teeth and false eyes are pardonable falsehoods, but what shall we say of false ears? A lover whispering vows into a tiny, pink-tipped ear made of some clever composition, and suddenly catching sight of the real ear, yellow, large, and ugiy in its ambush behind the hair, is a ludicrous and a lamentable ob-ject. But behind this thick cloud of insincerities is at least a little silver lining, for it proves that every woman does not, after all, imagine herself to be perfect, but recognises, only too practically, the existence of sundry

imperfections in her person.

The crinolette is an insincerity, but this

presage of crinoline is by no means so uni-versally adopted as alarmists would have us believe. It is worn chiefly by those who aim at being conspicuous, and these are the very class who run a fashion to death by the vigorous enthusiasm with which they adopt it and rush into extremes with it, thus making it ridiculous and vulgar in the eyes of those who might otherwise have been tempted by it. The best-dressed women in England ignore the crinolette, and though they by no means despise the adventitious aid of the scalpette, the "artistically-modelled corset designed to improve upon nature," or the deft skilfulness of the tailor accomplished in the mysteries of padding, there is yet the charm of consistency and completeness about their attire, consequent upon their being able to command the services of those who bring to their profession the experience of a life-time, and the artistic skill inseparable from constant practice. Far different is it with those who copy from afar, and burlesque what they seek in all good faith to reproduce. So much for form. Colour, though of secondary importance, is yet worthy of consideration. The esthetic movement, ridiculous as its apostles rendered it, has done much for English taste in this respect. Out of the blind gropings of the school after sublimised and unattainable tints, resulting in bilious, sickly, and most melancholy greens and blues, agonising reds, revolting yellows, miraculous mauves, monstrous terra-cottas, and livid lilacs, has been evolved a true feeling for colour such as never characterised our nation before. Men have little chance of proving this refined taste in colour on their persons, and with them it is displayed in the decoration of houses. Women absolutely revel in the richness of pure colouring that lies to their hand, and mistakes in the combination of tints become less frequent every Glaring eccentricities are now rare enough to prove themselves the exceptions to the general rule of good taste, and the result, in gatherings of well-dressed people, is a harmonious effect of tint to which at one time we English were strangers. The pre-

valence of dark colours for street wear is another indication of the better taste of recent Manufacturers who followed the march of colour soon discovered that tint is in a great measure dependent upon texture. A common, coarse fabric will not "take" a good shade of colour. An important con-sequence of this had been the production of such materials as were never even dreamed of by our grandmothers and great-grandmothers, whose one idea of "bravery in attire" was the silk or satin that could stand alone. To their richness we have now softness superadded. The brocades of to-day, the silks, the satins, the moirés, are of a texture as to do justice to the beauty of the colours in which they are produced. We have, therefore, textures unsurpassed in re-finement, colours in every variety of tender hue, and when the errors of a too obtrusive candour are amended, those of a would-becorrective insincerity disappearing in their train, Englishwomen may hope to be the best-dressed women of civilized countries, as Englishmen have long been acknowledged to

ECHOES OF THE WEEK. G. A. S." IN THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON

("G. A. S." IN THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.")

To the Christmas death-roll must be added the name of Mr. William Harrison Ainsworth, the novelist, who passed away on Tuesday last, at the ripe age of seventy-seven. As a young man of twenty he wrote a romance called "Sir John Chiverton," which earned the warm admiration of Sir Walter you know her Walter Scott. Sir Walter, you know, has been dead fifty years. Mr. Ainsworth had achieved popularity, as a novelist, before Charles Dickens had been heard of in the world of letters; for "Rookwood," I believe, appeared in 1834; whereas the first of the Sketches by Boz" did not appear in the Morning Chronicle until 1836. I suppose that William Harrison Ainsworth was about the most indefatigable worker in the field of historic fiction that our age has seen. G. P. R. James (who, on the appearance of his first romance, "Richelieu," was also complimented by the good-natured author of "Waverley") put forth a hundred volumes in the course of a literary career extending over some thirty years. But many of G. P. R. James's works were historical essays and biographies—such as his "Life of Edward the Black Prince" and "Life and Times of

the Black Prince" and "Life and Times of Louis XIV." Harrison Ainsworth, on the other hand, beyond writing some picturesque "touch-and-go" ballads, produced nothing, it would seem, but novels.

I am old enough to remember William Harrison Ainsworth as a very handsome man; almost as handsome, indeed, as Count d'Orsay. It was an Irish gentleman I believe who, at a conversazione at Core House lieve who, at a conversazione at Gore House, observing the beautiful hostess engaged in conversation with the handsome d'Orsay, the handsome Ainsworth, the handsome Frank Sheridan, and the handsome "Tom" Dun-combe, compared her Ladyship to "Venus

were Four of them."

The object of Mr. Oscar Wilde's visit to the United States—he sailed for New York a fortnight ago-is, I am told, to lecture on the fortinght ago—is, I am told, to lecture on the progress of Art in England during the past few years. Had I seen Mr. O. Wilde just before his departure, I would have repeated to him that which Horace Greeley used to say to every youthful aspirant for fame or fortune who sought his counsel:—"Go West, young man, go West." In the Eastern and Middle States Mr. Wilde will find, I suspect, some social but not much public acceptance. some social but not much public acceptance. The New York press is desperately cynic and satirical; and the good people of Boston so overbrim themselves with culture (pronounced "cultchaw") that there is a greater likelihood of their teaching Mr. Wilde how to serenade a sunflower; how to carry a jerked footbax to present the serves of severe of the serves of the se feather (a peacock's, of course, "swaling in the bonnet," as Leigh Hunt put it, in the "Story of Rimini"); how to lunch on a lily and dine on an Æolic Digamma, than of their and the on an Alone Digamma, than of their caring to be instructed in such matters by the accomplished Coryphæus of British Æstheticism. But in the Far West, where folks are more unsophisticated, Mr. Oscar Wilde

Not at all a pretty but, on the contrary, a very ugly quarrel as it stands is that between Messrs. Hare and Kendal, managers of the St. James's Theatre, and Mr. Pinero, actor and dramatic author, on the one hand; and between Mr. Thomas Hardy, novelist, and Mr. Comyns Carr, art critic and novelist, on the other. Messrs. H. and K. bring out a very well-written play called *The Squire*, by Mr. P. Gusher, Tusher, and Crusher. The theatrical critics notice a very strong similarity between Mr. P.'s *Squire* and Mr. T. Harity between Mr. P.'s Squire and Mr. T. H.'s well-known and delightful novel "Far from the Madding Crowd." Then Mr. C. C. comes forward (in the press) to state that some time since he submitted a dramatic version of Mr. H.'s novel to Mr. K., who, personally, approved of it very much; but that the partnership of H. and K. "didn't see it."

Then Mr. P. writes to say that he had no very thank the partnership of H. and K. "didn't see it." Mr. P. writes to say that he had never read Mr. H.'s novel when he settled the scenario of the Squire, and that he evolved the plot of the piece entirely "out of his own head." This Mr. T. H. seems to doubt very gravely, and Mr. C. C. more gravely still; and they are all "at it," figuratively speaking, with hammer and tongs, brickbats and bludgeons, in the daily papers; passing from the "retort courteous" to the "quip modest;" thence to the "reply churlish" and the "reproof valiant," and so onto the "counter-check quarrelsome" and its disagreeable etceteras: the last of which is not a weapon that should be used in a newspaper controversy between gentlemen. Of course the resemblance between Mr. Hardy's novel and Mr. Pinero's drama was an accidental coincidence, and nothing more. There is a coincidence quite as curious between the picture of the "Canterbury Pilgrims," painted by Stothard, and the drawing of the same subject made by William Blake, pictor ignotus. There was something more than an accidental coincidence between the plot of Mr. Tom Taylor's Mary Warner and Mr. William Gilbert's "Tales for the Pharisees." But perhaps the strangest literary coincidence which I can call to mind is that between Alexander Dumas the Elder's "Dame au Collier de Velours" and Washington Irving's 'Tale of the German Student," in the " of a German Traveller." In all probability Dumas père had never read a line of Irving yet it is just possible that both the brilliant French romancier and the illustrious American had read Hoffmann's "Contes Noc-

I came across, myself, a very odd coincidence of a philological kind this very week. For a long time I had been hunting up the conflicting derivations and obscure history of the word "bullion." I defer what I have to say about the word until the appearance of Professor W. W. Skeat's completed Larger Etymological Dictionary, which will be published early in February. lished early in February. The parts which have already been issued I have not yet seen; but it may be assumed that the learned professor has set us all right as regards the derivation and meaning of "bullion," in-cluding the late John Milton, who has "bullion" in the sense of an adjective, and seems to think that it means the scum of molten

A second multitude With wondrous art found out the massy ore, Severing each kind, and scumm'd the bullion

A poetic license, evidently, which led a Mil-tonian commentator to derive bullion from

the Latin "bullio" to boil.

But now for the odd coincidence. I find in the "Nouveau Dictionnaire Universel" (20 vols., Paris, 1810) that the name of the Superintendent of Finances who, A.B. 1640, first caused the coin known as the Louis d'Or to be coined in France, was Claude de Bultion. This is manifestly a coincidence: since Professor Skeat tells me privately that the word bullion occurs in the ninth year of

DEATH OF LIEUTENANT-GENERAL THE HON. JAMES MACDONALD, C.B.

We (Morning Post) regret to announce the death of Lieutenant-General the Hon. James William Macdonald, C.B., private secretary and equerry to the Duke of Cambridge, which occurred on Wednesday last, at St. Leonardson-Sea. He had been in impaired health for a considerable time past, and last winter went to Cannes on account of the unsatisfactory state of his health. He was the second son of Godfrey, third Lord Macdonald, by his wife Louisa Maria, daughter of Mr. Farley Edsir, and was born October 31, 1810, consequently had recently entered his 72d year. He married September 26, 1859, Hon. Eliza-beth Nina Blake, daughter of Joseph Henry third Lord Wallscourt, by whom he leaves issue George Godfrey, recently made page of honour to her Majesty, now in his 20th year; and Mary Selina Honoria, now in her 16th year. "Jim Macdonald" was, for many a

London season, in the days of Almack's, one of the most popular of fashionable young men. The contemporary of D'Orsay, Cecil Forester, The contemporary of D'Orsay, Cecil Forester, and other successors of the traditions of Brummel and the exquisitely-dressed beaux of a former period, he was an universal favourite from his natural charm and social qualities. When the trumpet of war sounded he proved himself no carpet knight, and throughout the Crimea was in the thickest of the fray, so much so that when it was wondered how he escaped so many dangers, a wit of the neriod escaped so many dangers, a wit of the period said, "You know white pheasants are never shot at battues," an allusion to the early white hair which he wore in well-ordered while hair which he wore in well-ordered profusion. A brave man and a gallant soldier, he won the affection of all who knew him. He lived to do the State some service in the important duties which he discharged with constant care. The Duke of Cambridge and his colleagues will deeply mourn the loss of an assistant and a friend who was never absent in the hours of work and seem that of an assistant and a friend who was never absent in the hours of work and care, but whose good companionship also lightened the more genial hours of leisure. The late general entered the army as an ensign in the 1st Life Guards in Oct., 1829, became lieutenant 24th Jan., 1834, captain 24th June, 1837, major 19th October, 1849, and lieutenant-colonel 12th December, 1854, when he went on half pay. For upwards of thirty years he had been equerry to the Duke of Cambridge, and in July, 1856, was appointed private secretary to his Royal Highness as Commander-in-Chief. He accompanied the Duke as aide-de-camp in the expedition to Turkey in 1854. He served throughout the Eastern campaign, including the battles of Alma (horse shot) including the battles of Alma (horse shot), Balaklava, and Inkerman (horse shot), the siege of Sebastopol, and sortie of the 26th October. For his services during the war he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath and a Knight of the Legion of Honour, and received the 5th class of the Medjidie, the Turkish medal, and the Orimean medal with four class. with four clasps. He was appointed colonel ist April, 1860; major-general, 6th March, 1868; lieutenant-general, 1st October, 1877; and in July, 1880, was appointed colonel of the 21st Hussars. For a long time past he had been deputy ranger of Hyde-park, an office which is in the gift of the Duke of

THE GLASGOW INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL SCANDAL.

A Glasgow correspondent wrote on Thursday night :- Proof was laid before Sheriff day night:—Proof was laid before Sherid Dees to-day in the action at the instance of Archibald Park on behalf of his daughter, Mary Park, against Jessie H. Wallace, matron of Lochburn Industrial School, Mary matron of Lochburn Industrial School, Mary-hill, claiming £50 damages for the alleged illtreatment of the girl during her stay in the school.—Mr. J. H. A. Macdonald, Q.O., in-structed by Mr. W. B. Paterson, writer, was counsel for the pursuer; and Mr. David Rodger, writer, appeared for the defender.—Janet Bun-tine, a girl of 15, was the first witness. She de-posed that Miss Wallace one day in August last said to the girl Park that her father had sent her to the school as he was tired of threshher to the school as he was tired of thrashing her, and that she (Miss Wallace) would ing her, and that she (Miss Wallace) would now begin and continue thrashing her till she too was tired. She then told the girl Park to lie over a chair. The girl refused. Miss Wallace then then gave her 13 lashes. Miss Greenhill and witness helped to hold the girl down. Miss Wallace next pulled the clothes off the girl. Park went down upon her knees asking Miss Wallace's forgiveness, but Miss Wallace said "No." Park would get about 50 blows altogether. Her body, particularly the left side, was all red flesh. Park was quite naked. She was weak after the flogging. Park asked for a drink of water, saying she was dying. Miss Wallace, instead of giving the girl water, dashed it in her face and ordered her to get a spray bath—Mary Jane Park, the female plaintiff, spoke to running away from the school, and being taken back by two of the officials, who promised her if she returned she would not be punished. That promise was ignored by Miss Wallace, who, she said, caused her to be held over a chair, and lashed her till she (Miss Wallace) was out of breath—a good part of the flogging being on her bare body. She received about fifty lashes. She was afterwards put into a spray bath for twenty minutes, and next locked up in the surgery for four days. Part of the time she was kept on bread-and-water, and had to lie on the floor, as there was no bed. Miss Wallace told her that if she mentioned Miss Wallace told her that if she mentioned the flogging to her father she would get more. Other witnesses were examined, amongst them being Dr. Johnston, who deposed that the marks on the girl's person were strong proof of undue severity. He was not surprised that the flogging produced in the girl a depressed state of mind. To put the girl under a spray bath for ten minutes after a severe flogging with the leather tawse produced was gross with the leather tawse produced was gross inhumanity. The only witness for the defence was the defender herself. She said that of 220 girls in the school Park was the worst behaved. She had been warned that if she ran away she would be punished. The punish-ment in question did not exceed twelve stripes. It was without her knowledge that the girl got bread and water, and when she learned of it she ordered her to receive the regular diet of the house. The spray bath was used for sanitary purposes. The girl was not of purpose flogged naked, but in the struggle her clothing fell off.—Judgment was deferred.

MR. FORSTER AND THE IRISH LANDLORDS. Mr. Forster has addressed the following letter to Mr. Kavanagh, one of the speakers at the recent Landlords meeting in Dublin:— Irish Office, Great Queen-street, S.W.,

Dear Mr. Kavanagh,—I have to-day had an opportuninty of reading your speech last Monday, and in your remarks about the Subcommissioners under the Land Act I find you reported as saying: "I believe—and I am glad of being able now to make this statement publicly, in order that her Majesty's Government may have the opportunity of contradicting it if it is not correct—I believe there have here given seret instructions. there have been given secret instructions of a there have been given secret instructions of a very grave nature, their acceptance of and their compliance with which is a condition of their appointment." As a rule I think it better to postpone replies to eriticisms, either spoken or written, until I can make them in Parliament, but upon so important a matter as this I cannot allow a gentleman of your high authority upon Irish affairs, and for whom I have so much personal respect and regard, to labour under a misapprehension regard, to labour under a misapprehension. Let me, therefore, at once contradict this statement, for which there is absolutely no statement, for which there is absolutely no foundation whatever, and respecting which you have doubtless been misinformed.—I am, dear Mr. Kavanagh, yours sincerely,

W. E. Forster.

M. GAMBETTA'S POSITION. - The Morning Post thinks that "M. Gambetta is to be highly applauded for the patriotism and good sense which lead him to choose merit and ability without regard to political factions. But the very impartiality of his selections are his devery impartiality of his selections are his de-cisive condemnation in the yes of the Repub-lican zealots. While the Conservative classes are doubtful about M. Cambetta's sudden Conservatism, there need be no doubt at all about the ferocity with which large sections of his former supporters regard the change in their favourite's attifude. It is declared that M. Gambetta is about to convert declared that M. Gambetta is about to convert the Republic into a Cæsarism. A witty pen has summarised the situation as not dissimilar from the attempt of M. Ollivier in 1870. M. Ollivier tried to establish a Liberal Empire. M. Gambetta is founding an Im-perial Republic. One failed. Will the other perial republic. One failed. Will the other succeed? It is worthy of serious notice that the man in Parliament who, after M. Gambetta himself, is the most influential leader of the Republicans, namely, M. Henri Brisson, the actual President of the Chamber, is working actively against the new policy of the Republican chief.

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M Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 7-8, 1882.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

It is instructive to note the very different effect which the announcement of the failure of the Anglo-French negotiations has produced in England and in France respectively. With us the pre-vailing feeling is one of relief tempered with regret. We perfectly understand that our trade with France will suffer considerably from the operation of the new tariff. We quite expect that France will buy less of our products than she has done, and that the curtailment of the French demand will for a time be injurious to several branches of trade; and we are sorry that it should be so. But this injury, we are persuaded, will not be permanent. We are confident in our ability to open up new markets for the products which France may exclude, more especially as alteration of her tariff will tend to divert trade into new routes, and at the same time, by increasing the cost of production in France, will make her less able to compete with us abroad. And, accordingly, the return of our Commissioners has not disturbed our equanimity. On the contrary, there is rather a feeling of relief that the worst is now known, and that the harassing uncertainty as to our future trade relations with France, by which business has too long been restricted and disorganised, has at length been removed. Not a word of disapproval of the action of the Government has been heard, but everywhere, and by men of all shades of political opinion, the course they have taken is cordially supported, and the Commissioners are accorded ness with which they have ex-

well-merited praise for the faithfulpressed and given effect to the wishes of the country. In France, on the other hand, the rupture of the negotiations has caused a great flutter of excitement. The present and the past Government alike are being blamed for want of skill or knowledge in their conduct of affairs. Recriminations and reproaches are being bandied about, and in many quarters very serious alarm is expressed as to the effect upon French commerce of the lapsing of the existing treaty. And there are good reasons why the failure to conclude a treaty should be regarded much more seriously in France than it is in England. To begin with, we buy much more from her than she does from us. On an average of years she has imported from us goods to the value of about £24,000,000 per annum. and has sent us goods to the value of about £40,000,000. Nor is it only that we are the better customer of the two; our custom is also far more essential to France than hers is to us. We take between a sixth and a seventh of her total exports, while she takes only about a twelfth part of ours. Our exports to her, moreover, consist mainly of necessaries for which, if she does not buy them, we shall doubtless be able to find other purchasers. Her exports to us, on the other hand, are largely made up of luxuries for which it will be difficult to find other markets. Both in regard to quality and to kind, therefore, our purchases are vastly more important to her than hers are to us, and from a simultaneous curtailment of purchases such as is only too likely to take place, she will certainly suffer most. It is almost inevitable, also, that failure to conclude a treaty with England must involve inability on the part of the French Government to ratify treaties provisionally arranged with other nations, and to which it is to be presumed France attaches considerable importance, as otherwise she would not have entered into them. If, for instance, the treaty with Belgium is ratified, the result will be that goods from Belgium will pay much lower duties than those levied upon our products under the general tariff. And, as a consequence of this, no matter how much the French authorities may strive to prevent it, Engfish goods will be sent into France through Belgium. Such an alteration in the course of trade, however, would obviously be wery injurious to the French ports, from which it would divert traffic, and if the Protectionist party in the Chambers are reinferced, as they are certain to be by those interested in the prosperity of the seaports, they are likely to be able to prevent the ratification of the Belgian Treaty if, indeed, the Government does not of its own accord abandon it. It would, of course, be different if England and France agreed to accord each other the most favoured nation treatment. Then traffic between the two nations, although diminished in volume, would, in the main, continue to flow in the old channel. But this solution of the difficulty appears to be unacceptable to the French Government, and, failing it, the Belgian and possibly other treaties seem to have a poor chance of ratification. There is the probability, also, that by imposing heavy burdens upon our products, France will deprive herself of some portion of her present transit trade. It is notorious that considerable quantities of English goods are now sent into Italy

and Spain through France, and the ten-

dency of the new general tariff must be to

convert this indirect into a direct trade

with us, especially as we have it in

our power greatly to assist such a

ing French treaty will leave us free to

movement. The lapsing of the exist-

can do much to develop trade with Spain and Italy. As the result of our altered relations with France, it will probably be best for us to abandon all thought of reducing the duty on light wines below the minimum of is. per gallon. For the sacrifice of revenue which a reduction, say to a minimum of 6d. a gallon, would entail, the stimulus to an increased consumption of non-intoxicating wines, beneficial though that might be, would not in itself afford an adequate compensation. It may, indeed, be doubted whether a reduction of 6d. a gallon would ever reach the consumer, and, in any case, if only the social benefits to be derived from the increased consumption of such beverages are to be considered, it cannot be doubted that we have other and better ways of disposing of any surplus revenue. But if by a reduction in the scale for wines exceeding 26 degrees of alcoholic strength we can stimulate our trade with other nations of Southern Europe, and also with our own colonies, the reduction ought certainly to be made, especially as it is admitted that the present jump from 1s. on a wine of 26 degrees to 2s. 6d. on one which may only exceed that strength by a degree or two is bad in theory and pernicious in practice. It is to be hoped, therefore, that our Government will lose no time in availing itself of its newly acquired freedom. It can now negotiate with Spain and Italy with less restraint than formerly, and as both are anxious to conclude treaties with us, agreements calculated to develop our commercial intercourse with them and to bring direct to us trade which now is transacted through France are more likely than before to be concluded .- Economist.

THE REFORM OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE.

The Standard says :- The Cabinet met on Friday, and separated without arriving at any definite conclusion as to the form in which the cloture is to be proposed to the House of Commons next session. Mr. Gladstone will certainly propose an arrangement by which questions asked of Ministers before the House proceeds to the Orders of the Day may be grouped under heads that will naturally suggest themselves. It may be said with equal confidence that the Cabinet will endorse the proposals of the Speaker and Sir Erskine May to prohibit motions for adjournment at question time, except under special and rare conditions. The suggestions are reasonable enough. But it must be clearly understood that the cloture in any shape, and whatever the modifications which it may assume, must involve a very extensive disfranchisement of the constituencies. To put an end to debate by closing the mouths of the Opposition at the will of Ministers is simply to hand over the government of the country bodily to the majority for the time being, without limit or control. Ministers insist upon a power for which there is no precedent in our political history. They confess that they are unable to administer the affairs of the nation unless they have not only a parliamentary majority, but a parliamentary minority which is virtually muzzled. This is not popular rule; it is the autocracy of a numerical accident.

The Times thinks that a drastic party measure for the revision of the whole system of Parliamentary procedure would inevitably provoke serious resistance not merely in the ranks of the Opposition, and would probably waste another session in sterile and exasperating controversy There are thus two alternatives before the Government. Either they may consent to sacrifice the greater part of the session to the reform of the procedure of the House, in which case probably most of the bills of Mr. Chamberlain and of other Ministers will have to be put back once more into their box; or, having dealt with obstruction at the outset, they may offer a wellconsidered programme of legislation admitted to be necessary, and employ their whole strength in carrying it through. There can be very little difficulty in framing such a programme; indeed, the main difficulty would lie in the necessary task of selection.

The Spectator thinks that the right of cloture is not the tyrannical power of putting down minorities, but simply and solely the right of preventing unreasonable minorities from fighting against time so as to baffle the will of the majority, and wear out the physical power of the House. We ask nothing from a Liberal Government which we should not have been equally willing to give to a Conservative Government, or any kind of Government possible in England. What is wanted is a new power of squeezing the talk of the House within the limits needful to render action possible. The cry about minorities and liberty is all purely misleading. A steward must have some control of that to which his stewardship relates. When Lord Derby proposes to require three-fourths of the whole House to acquiesce in any vote limiting the time of discussion, he proposes to render the leader of the House virtually helpless in the matter.

The Saturday Review says :- The application of the borrowed contrivance of Grand Committees has a plausible and symmetrical appearance. In practice, the plan would be subject to the drawback of affording facilities to professional experts skilful in dealing with political puzzles. The vote of every member of a party would be dictated by some authority corresponding to the whip; and the Committees would be as effectually packed as if they were appointed by the Carlton or the Reform Club. By a necessary consequence, either the House of Commons would abdicate its principal function or every decision of a Committee would be reopened in the House.

THE POLITICAL PROSPECT.

The Saturday Review, discussing the political prospect at the commencement of a new year, remarks :- It cannot be said that politics wear a cheerful aspect at the beginning of the year, but the state of Europe is less alarming than the condition

of the United Kingdom:—
In glancing successively round points in the circle of public affairs, the political observer may excusably abstain as long as possible from directing his attention to domestic politics, and especially to the state of Ireland. In that unhappy country there is no diminution of crime or of anarchy; and the popular demoralisation is faithfully represented by the impudent language of male and female demagogues, and by the circumstances of the most recent murders. There is no doubt that the Government is anxiously deal as we think best with our wine duties, and by a modification of these we order and of protecting the property which

remains. Their culpability consists in their | Mound; and a serious accident occurred at former slackness in repressing an organiza-tion which, with feeble credulity, they hoped to disarm by extravagant concessions. Some of the Ministers seem inclined to connive at the extension to England and Scotland of the practice of legislative spoliation. The precedent of the Irish Land Act has already deprived property of all kinds of the unquestioned security which it lately enjoyed. With fatal blindness, capitalists, who will assuredly be the next victims, have in some instances encouraged designs for the plunder of landowners. The wealthier members of the Farmers' Alliance fail to discern the inevitable result of their proposed robbery of landlords in the demand of the rest of the agricultural population for the subdivision of farms. One of the most uncomfortable circumstances of the present uncomfortable circumstances of the present state of political affairs is that no substitutes can be found, or even desired, for the actual holders of power. Even if there were a Con-servative chief as wise as Sir Robert Peel, with a party as well disciplined as his fol-lowers, the Opposition could not prudently undertake the restoration of order in Ireland. The factious opposition from which the Government, notwithstanding the querulous injustice of some of its members, has been almost wholly exempt, would be instantly or-ganised against a Conservative Ministry. The difficulty will probably not arise in practice. because the majority returned at the general election is still unbroken. The more hopeless the condition of Ireland, the deeper the in-dignation of the orderly classes of the com-munity, the more fulsome is the adulation which Liberal politicians bestow on Mr. Gladstone. It is true that his abilities and his industry become more marvellous as they prove themselves to be unimpaired by age; but the vigour of a dangerous Minister is not a subject for unqualified satisfaction.

THE EGYPTIAN RIDDLE. Egyptian news at present is little but a

succession of conundrums. Arabi Bey has, it seems, been made Under-Secretary for War; and the military incident is regarded as closed by his appointment:-The announcement has a singularly occidental appearance, and no surprise need be felt if in a day or two the whole story is denounced as apocryphal. It it be true, what becomes of that alarming military dictatorship which has hung like a thundercloud over Egyptian affairs? That an under-secretaryship should convert Arabi from an agitator into a harmless official is perhaps not improbable; but if the army, which does not share his emoluments, is thus suddenly reduced to submission, it is clear that the dangers so eloquently descanted upon during these last weeks have been wholly imaginary A Gambettist organ energetically denies M de Blowitz's account of negotiations concern-ing an Anglo-French interference; and, indeed, that arbiter of European destiny himself must perceive that it is scarcely worth while to move troops, when the whole affair can be settled by throwing a trifling sop to Arabi Bey. This too complete and opportune demonstration that at least two Cabinets have been distressing themselves about nothing, will leave, however, the suspicion that the public has been told the truth about the condition of Egyptian affairs. Meanwhile, Gordon Pacha states his views on the Egyptian question. Briefly, they are that Sherif Pacha is probably the only Egyptian Minister whose integrity is unimpeachable; that it is ridiculous to expect any good thing from Tewfik or any of the class to which he belongs; and that troubles were always inevitable from the chaotic and feeble nature of the system see up in Egypt by the Western Powers. As for the prosperity of Egypt, about which we hear so much, Gordon Pacha laughs at it. The finances, he admits, are prosperous under Egyptian management, but the Egyptian people are as miserable as before. Arabi Bey may be the humbug he is painted by some; but, at any rate, his leading ideas are enforced by this highly competent and independent witness. This country, so full of philanthropy where it is not called upon to meddle at all, is actually exploiting Egypt for its own benefit, without any genuine regard for the Fellaheen. Its policy is fundamentally bad, and its interest, as well as the morality it is fond of professing, demands that it should make the encouragement of a national party in Egypt its first aim .- Globe.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, FRIDAY.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely; and her Majesty walked this morning with Princess Beatrice. Lord Carlingford (Lord Privy Seal) arrived at Osborne yesterday, and had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family. Lord Carlingford left for London this morning. The Dowager Countess of Lisburne had the honour of being received by the Queen yesterday.

The Prince of Wales, who is the guest of Prince and Princess Christian at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, hunted on Friday with Mr. T. Garth's pack of foxhounds at

Billingbear Park.
The Marquis of Lorne will sail from the Mersey on Wednesday next, in the Allan Line Royal steamer Caspian, for Halifax, to resume his official duties as Governor-General of Canada. The Marquis will be accom-panied by Colonel de Winton, military se-cretary, and Mr. and Lady Frances Balfour. Lady Frances, who is a sister of the Marquis of Lorne, will, we understand, discharge the duties at the Court at Ottawa which would ordinarily undertaken by the Princess Louise until the Princess herself arrives later in the The Duke of Cambridge returned on Friday

to Gloucester House, Park-lane, from visiting Lord and Lady Fitzhardinge at Berkeley Castle, the Duke's visit being abridged by the lamented death of Lieut.-General Hon. James Macdonald, his attached friend and private The German Ambassador and Count Alex-

ander and Countess Marie Munster returned to the German Embassy on Friday from visit to the Earl and Countess of Derby at Knowsley. Count Alexander Munster left by last night's mail for Germany. The Earl of Northbrook left town on Friday

soon after the separation of the Cabinet Ministers, on his return to Stratton Park, near Winchester.

The Earl of Seafield has left Claridge' Hotel for Craigend Castle, Milugaire, N.B. The remains of the late Viscount Helmsley M.P., are to be brought from Madeira to Duncombe Park for interment in the family vault. The Earl of Feversham will leave Cannes in order to attend his son's funeral. Count H. Bismarck returned to the German Embassy on Friday from the Continent, in order to resume his duties as Second Secretary of the Embassy.

Lord John Manners is still confined to his

room, a slight attack of gout having retarded his recovery from his recent accident.

The Hon. James K. Howard, late Commissioner of Woods and Forests, who has been indisposed for some time past at his seat, Hazelby House, Hants, is, the Post regrets to learn, in a very precarious condition.

SEVERE GALE AND LOSS OF LIFE. A severe gale has raged with greater or less violence over the United kingdom. At Edinburgh a portion of one of the ornamental turrets connected with the spire of the Esta-blished Church Assembly-hall was blown

down; a hansom cab was turned over on the

the brickworks situated in a field adjoining the road leading from Leith to Restalrig. The sea was very rough in the Firth of Forth. A house was blown down in Bothwell-street. Glasgow, and much damage was done to the glass roof of St. Enoch's station. A chimneystack in Kilsyth, 100ft. high, on the premises of Messrs. Baird, ironmasters, was blown down. Some large rope-works at Govan were much damaged, and one man killed. Fourteen women and eight men had a narrow escape; three were taken to the infirmary, severely injured. At Dundee rain fell in forrents, trees were uprooted, and trains delayed. The sea on the coast was terrific. At Kirkwall (Orkney) the wind Llew the waves into a mist which was driven over the town. Near Dunfermline, at the Lillehill terra-cotta works, a brick stack, 40ft. in height, fell through the roof of a drying store, causing great damage, and killing two men. Considerable damage was done to the breakwater at Port Erin, Isle of Man, the lighthouse at the end being washed away. The gale was severely felt in Belfast, and several of the streets were flooded. Along the Lancashire coast a heavy gale prevailed, doing considerable damage on the Mersey and at Blackpool, at which place parts of the promenade were washed away. Clitheroe and Blackburn also

A Preston correspondent wrote on Saturday:-Yesterday evening, at dusk, as Mr. Lamb, a Preston contractor, was standing near St. Matthew's New Church, which he was erecting, a beam was blown from the roof. It struck him on the head, fracturing his skull, and causing death in a few minutes. This morning, at Preston, there is

a gale blowing. A Dundee correspondent wrote the same day:—The westerly gale which commenced yesterday prevailed with undiminished fury till this forenoon, when it began to moderate. During the night snow fell heavily, and all the plantations in this quarter have suffered severely. A hoarding used for bill posters was blown down in Perth, and fell upon a farmer and a boy. The farmer was danger-ously hurt, and was removed to the infirmary. The boy had one of his legs broken. An Established Church which is being erected at Ladybank was seriously damaged, all the windows being smashed. At Stonehaven, a hearse, while returning from a funeral, was caught by a heavy squall and overturned, the two men on the box escaping. The traffic by the Ferry steamers on the Tay and the Forth has been resumed.

A Glasgow message says :- The storm has abated this morning in the west of Scotland. Telegraphic communication with the western counties is entirely suspended. Railway traffic with Helensburg has been stopped since Friday forenoon, but it is hoped to be able to resume the traffic on Monday, as gangs of men are now repairing the line. Large portions of the banks of the Clyde have been washed away, the tide on Friday being the highest experienced for 40 years, while the gale appeared stronger than that which blew down the Tay Bridge.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK. the name of Mr. William Harrison Ainsworth, the novelist, who passed away on Tuesday last, at the ripe age of seventyseven. As a young man of twenty he wrote a romance called "Sir John Chiverton," which earned the warm admiration of Sir Walter Scott. Sir Walter, you know, has been dead fifty years. Mr. Ainsworth had achieved popularity, as a novelist, before Charles Dickens had been heard of in the world of letters; for "Rookwood," I believe, appeared in 1834; whereas the first of the "Sketches by Boz" did not appear in the Morning Chronicle until 1836. that William Harrison Ainsworth was about the most indefatigable worker in the field of historic fiction that our age has seen. G. P. R. James (who, on the appearance of his first romance, "Richelieu," was also complimented by the good-natured author of "Waverley") put forth a hundred volumes in the course of a literary career extending over some thirty years. But many of G. P. R. James's works were historical essays and biographies-such as his "Life of Edward the Black Prince" and "Life and Times of Louis XIV." Harrison Ainsworth, on the other hand, beyond writing some picturesque "touch-and go" ballads, produced nothing, it would seem, but novels.

I am old enough to remember William Harrison Ainsworth as a very handsome man; almost as handsome, indeed, as Count d'Orsay. It was an Irish gentieman I believe who, at a conversazione at Gore House. observing the beautiful hostess engaged i conversation with the handsome d'Orsay, the handsome Ainsworth, the handsome Frank Sheridan, and the handsome "Tom" Dancombe, compared her Ladyship to "Veaus surrounded by the Three Graces; only there

were Four of them.' The object of Mr. Oscar Wilde's visit to the United States—he sailed for New York a fortnight ago—is, I am told, to lecture on the progress of Art in England during the past few years. Had I seen Mr. O. Wilde just before his departure, I would have repeated to him that which Horace Greeley used to say to every youthful aspirant for fame or fortune who sought his counsel :- "Go West, young man, go West." In the Eastern and Middle States Mr. Wilde will find, I suspect, some social but not much public acceptance The New York press is desperately cynic and satirical; and the good people of Boston so overbrim themselves with culture (pronounced "cultchaw") that there is a greater likeli-hood of their teaching Mr. Wilde how to serenade a sunflower; how to carry a jerked feather (a peacock's, of course, "swaling in the bonnet." as Leigh Hunt put it, in the the bonnet." as Leigh Hunt put it, in the "Story of Rimini"); how to lunch on a lily and dine on an Æolic Digamma, than of their caring to be instructed in such matters by the accomplished Coryphæas of British Æsthe ticism. But in the Far West, where folks are more unsophisticated, Mr. Oscar Wilde

Not at all a pretty but, on the contrary, a very ugly quarrel as it stands is that between Messrs. Hare and Kendal, managers of the St. James's Theatre, and Mr. Pinero, actor and dramatic author, on the one hand; and between Mr. Thomas Hardy, novelist, and Mr. Comyns Carr, art critic and novelist, on the other. Messrs. H. and K. bring out a very well-written play called *The Squire*, by Mr. P. Gusher, Tusher, and Crusher. The theatrical critics notice a very strong simi-larity between Mr. P.'s Squire and Mr. T. H.'s well-known and delightful novel from the Madding Crowd." Then Mr. C. C. comes forward (in the press) to state that some time since he submitted a dramatic ver-sion of Mr. H.'s novel to Mr. K., who, personally, approved of it very much; but that the partnership of H. and K. "didn't see it." Then Mr. P. writes to say that he had never read Mr. H.'s novel when he settled the scenario of the Squire, and that he evolved the plot of the piece entirely "out of his own head." This Mr. T. H. seems to doubt very gravely, and Mr. C. C. more gravely still and they are all "at it," figuratively speaking, with hammer and tongs, brickbats and bludgeons, in the daily papers; passing from the "retort courteous" to the "quip modest;" "retort courteous" to the "quip modest;" thence to the "reply churlish" and the "reproof valiant," and so onto the "countercheck quarrelsome" and its disagreeable etceteras: the last of which is not a weapon that should be used in a newspaper controversy between gentlemen. Of course the resemblance between Mr. Hardy's novel and Mr. Pinero's drama was an accidental coincidence, and nothing more. There is a coincidence quite as curious between the picture of the "Canterbury Pilgrims," painted by Stothard, and the drawing of the same sub-

ject made by William Blake, pictor ignotus. There was something more than an accidental coincidence between the plot of Mr. Tom Taylor's Mary Warner and Mr. William Gilbert's "Tales for the Pharisees." But perhaps the strangest literary coincidence which I can call to mind is that between Alexander Dumas the Elder's "Dame au Collier de Velours" and Washington Irving's Tale of the German Student," in the "Tales of a German Traveller." In all probability, Dumas père had never read a line of Irving yet it is just possible that both the brilliant French romancier and the illustrious American had read Hoffmann's "Contes Noc-

I came across, myself, a very odd coincidence of a philological kind this very week. For a long time I had been hunting up the conflicting derivations and obscure history of the word "bullion." I defer what I have to say about the word until the appearance of Professor W. W. Skeat's completed Larger Etymological Dictionary, which will be published early in February. The parts which have already been issued I have not yet seen; but it may be assumed that the learned professor has set us all right as regards the derivation and meaning of "bullion," in-cluding the late John Milton, who has "bullion" in the sense of an adjective, and seems to think that it means the scum of molten A second multitude

With wondrous art found out the massy ore, Severing each kind, and scumm'd the bullion

A poetic license, evidently, which led a Miltonian commentator to derive bullion from the Latin "bullio" to boil.

But now for the odd coincidence. I find in the "Nouveau Dictionnaire Universel (20 vols., Paris, 1810) that the name of the Superintendent of Finances who, A.D. 1640, first caused the coin known as the Louis d'Or to be coined in France, was Claude de Bullion. This is manifestly a coincidence: since Professor Skeat tells me privately that the word bullion occurs in the ninth year of Edward III.—"G. A. S. in the *Illustrated* London News.

M. GAMBETTA'S POSITION. - The Morning Post thinks that "M. Gambetta is to be highly applauded for the patriotism and good sense which lead him to choose merit and ability without regard to political factions. But the very impartiality of his selections are his decisive condemnation in the eyes of the Republican zealots. While the Conservative classes are doubtful about M. Gambetta's sudden Conservatism, there need be no doubt at all about the ferocity with which large sections of his former supporters regard the change in their favourite's attitude. It is declared that M. Gambetta is about to convert the Republic into a Cæsarism. A witty pen has summarised the situation as not dissimilar from the attempt of M. Ollivier in 1870.

M. Ollivier tried to establish a Liberal Empire. M. Gambetta is founding an Imperial Republic. One failed. Will the other succeed? It is worthy of serious notice that the man in Parliament who, after M. Gambetta himself, is the most influential leader of ECHOES OF THE WEEK. | the Republicans, namely, M. Henri Brisson,
To the Christmas death-roll must be added | the actual President of the Chamber, is working actively against the new policy of the Republican chief.

ANATOMY OF PANIC. - The Iphrase I" the

anatomy of melancholy" amply justifies "the anatomy of panic." The mental state designated panic is, psychologically, a paralysing perception of peril. The power of self-con-trol is suspended. The judgment cannot inhibit impulsive or emotional acts. The processes of reason-in its higher manifestations-are in abeyance. Panic spreads from one individual to another, as well as affects many in common. The same impression which is produced on one sensorium may be produced on any number simultaneously by the primary cause of fear; but there is nothing else so calculated to produce panic as the evidence of panic in the mind of another person, especially one or many with whom the mind impressed—in this secondary way—may chance to be in habitual or occasional sympathetic relation. It matters little to the general result whether the impression be produced or extended through the sense of sight or hearing, or even general sensation. It is sufficient that it can be produced and propagated in either of several ways. The true remedy for panic must be, in great part, preventive. It is a capital suggestion that a permanent notice which all can read should displayed across curtain and act drop, "writ large," and plainly stating the time in which the auditorium of a theatre can be emptied if only the audience will individually determine to keep their wits about them, and stating the number and location of the places of exit. Again, the manager and chief performers at a theatre should make it a point of honour to keep their self-possession, and preserve smiling faces above the footlights if any hitch occurs. It is useless to speak or ut; nothing can so rapidly reassure a theatrical audience in panic as the sight of a self-possessed and smiling face instantly presented on the stage. One man may do morein this way than can be done by half-a-dozen in any other. Another point of moment is to impress the mind through the ear. Let the orchestra instantly strike up a cheerful tune. We heard the other day how an organist saved hundreds from panic in a church by playing a tune which instinctively brought the audience on their knees. On the same principle the orchestra in a theatre should call the panic-stricken spectators back to their by a bright burst of music. Surely managers and conductors might contrive these "effects," and train a few faithful followers to support them. Another matter of the highest practical moment is to make the ways of exit ways of common ingress. It is impossible to lay too great stress on this obvious precaution. It is worth while to study panics at leisure, and devise means for their prevention or prompt arrest.—The Lancet. THE PREDICTED END OF THE WORLD .- The

Shipton, the Mother Shipton, and the Mother Redcap are names familiar to wayfarers in the north of London as being in the immediate neighbourhood of starting or resting places of tramcars and omnibuses; and the second was lately associated with an alarming legend whereby it was predicted the world would be destroyed in December last. That the prediction was not fulfilled even that nervous lady will acknowledge who went to her sister's at Newcastle in order that she might be in safety when the catastrophe occurred; but the disappointment has occasioned regret, as we infer from a new announcement that the date was miscalculated and that annihilation will happen, as Mother Shipton foresaw, at a period not as yet disclosed. People who are not happy unless they are miserable, and who placed entire faith in Mother Shipton's prophecy, will be pained to hear that it was a hoax; confession having been made by its author, who had al-lowed imagination to enlarge the nonsense o an old pamphlet published at a time when witchcraft was popular, as another kind of sensationalism is at the present day. The march of intellect makes no advance among persons who like to have their nerves shaken by dreams, omens, and the predictions of "cunning ones," who will explain a mystery or make a phrophecy to suit the desires of their custo-Mother Shipton, of Kentish-town, mers. whose alleged prediction of the destruction of the world in the year 1881 has proved so remarkably unsuccessful, was no doubt a poor old creature living upon the credulity of girls who wanted to have destined husbands described to them or otherwise desired to peep into futurity; her fame, which has suddenly expired, instead of the world, will be kept in memory by the hostelry above described; she was really once a living personage, for there are records of her having been born at Lowbrigge,

Knaresborough, in July, 1488, as comme morated on a signboard there. Her biogra-phers say, but without vouching for the tact, that she predicted the fall of Cardinal Wolsey and other remarkable events; but as the prefore the events transpired, people who give the old sybil a thought as they pass in a tramcar the site of her hut, may come to the conclusion that is most agreeable to their understanding .- News of the World.

ITALIAN SCENERY. - Before railways existed, English tourists in Italy were forced to spend much of their time in looking at the country. Of late years they have been too much confined to picture galleries; and fashion has forced many whose tastes lay plainly elsewhere, to an exclusive devotion to the Oldest Masters. A reaction seems now to be setting in. Some of our travellers are returning to Nature. and remembering that it is still possible to drive, and even walk, about the most beautiful country in Europe. The Sections of the Italian Alpine Club are coming handsomely and practically to their aid. Principally by means of the exertions of these bodies, the mountains of Pistoja (of which Prof. Colvin gave an eloquent sketch in a recent number of the Portfolio) have been thrown open as a summer residence; the mountains of Carrara and the Pania della Croce have been rendered accessible to those who wish to enjoy the views which suggested not a few passages in the Commedia; and Vallombrosa and Camaldoli have now more or less comfortable inns. The Italian Club makes a further contribution to the wants of travellers by issuing from time to time, in the shape of local handbooks, useful pocket volumes dealing each with a particular district or valley of the Tuscan Apennine, and throwing together practical hints as to the roads, paths, and nns, with historical sketches, references to local customs and the local poetry in which this region is so rich, and chapters on natural history or botanical catalogues which may be useful to the specialist. It is, perhaps, a pity that these books are not brought more under the eyes of English travellers on the spot by local booksellers. When will the Italian Club bring out an intelligent Guide to walks in the hills near Rome? In no city does the foot-wanderer find a greater choice of country brought within his reach if he knows how to profit by trains or tramways. -The Academy.

THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH NAVIES .- Lord Dunsany writes to the St. James's Gazette :-"The comparison you drew on Tue-day last between the actual strength of the British and French navies leaves no excuse for ignorance or indifference upon the subject. Those who like to live in a fool's paradise will still, however, believe with the leading journal, that, as Nelson never counted an enemy's ships, we need not do so now. Still, there are two facts to which I would beg to call attention as being no less singular than sug-gestive. Englishmen write, talk, and boast of their navy, inviting public attention at home and abroad to each fresh addition (generally a comparative failure). but with no definite idea as to what our force is, or ought to be relatively. France follows the very opposite plan: never boasts of her navy, discourages all discussion about its condition, but has one constant and invariable rule as to its relative force. Whether under King, Emperor, or Republic, France always aims sometimes even superior, to the available fleet of England. Forty years ago our fleet outnumbered the French; but France, by her better system, could have at any time manned double the number of ships for an emergency, and was therefore practically stronger. Twice under the Empire the efficient fleet of France was for a time stronger than ours: and even the dire catastrophe of 1870-71 only for a brief period diverted her from the system the success of which was detailed in your pages.'

FOREIGN CHEESE .- Everyone must have noticed (the Lancet says) the great increase which has taken place of late years in the consumption of foreign cheese in England. Gruyère, Camembert, Roquefort, and Gorgon-zola, not to speak of Bondon, Brie, and Parmesan, which a few years ago were hardly known in this country, are now to be found in thousands of houses and in almost all hotels. We are inclined to think that this apparent alteration in public taste is due in part to a deterioration in the quality of English cheese. Cheese imported from abroad is almost invariably good, and offers a great variety of delicate flavours. The makers of some of the best kinds are able to produce that much prized green mould formerly so often and now so seldom seen in English cheese. Even Stilton seems to us to be harder and drier than it used to be. Surely careful study would teach English makers to keep up with their Continental rivals, and so preserve to this country a manufacture which was formerly so important and lucrative.

AMUSEMENTS FOR PAUPERS .- The Richmond Board of Guardians have been considering a proposal that portions of The Rivals, of The Thracian Robber, and Moses in the Bulrushes should be represented for the amusement of the children in the workhouse. Objection was taken to the third piece on the ground that a sacred subject was mixed up with comic songs and burlesque. Captain Tulley said he need hardly remind them that this was taken from the Old Testament, and it was really a very pretty scene. There was a child laid in an ark, and a great alligator came to eat it up. The Reverend T. G. Headley moved that the performance be allowed. Mr. Terry (the comedian, who is a member of the board) objected to the mixing of sacred and secular subjects, although of course they liked both. He saw that directly after Moses in the Bulrushes, they were to have Old Timbertoes. The Reverend H R. Wakefield said that if they could have Moses in the Bulrushes without Mrs. Somebody swallowing the fly directly after, it would be much better. board, after further discussion, reassirmed their decision to allow the entertainment with the exception of Moses in the Bulrushes.

GAS EXPLOSION IN WESTMINSTER.—A terrific explosion of gas occurred on Friday morning, about eight o'clock, at the Victoria Mansions Victoria-street. These buildings have just been built, and are not yet occupied. On a workman taking a light into a room on the second floor, a terrible explosion took place. The floor of the room was torn up, and damage done to the staircase leading to the room. At the back of the premises the whole of the windows were completely blown away, and eight or ten sets of thick plate-glass windows on the opposite side of the way are completely riddled by the pieces of glass and plaster blown over the road. No one was hurt.

—At Bow-street on Saturday an application was made to Mr. Flowers for a summons against Hadj Ali Ben Mohammed, the acrobat, to whom Mr. Littler, Q.C., discovered at bat, to whom Mr. Littler, Q.C., discovered at Constantinople that a number of English boys had been virtually sold into slavery. The ground on which the application was based in the first instance was that the consent of the parents of the children to the sale had been obtained by fraud; but after a long discovered to the sale had been obtained by fraud; but after a long discovered at the consent of the parents and there was not said. cussion, Mr. Flowers said there was not sufficient information before him upon which to grant a summons. He promised, however, to reconsider the application if a formal information were drawn up.

ACCIDENT ON THE CHATHAM AND DOVER RAIL-ACCIDENT ON THE CHATHAM AND DOVER KAILWAY.—An accident occurred about two o'clock
on Saturday morning on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, which, had it happened at an hour when trains run frequently,
might have been attended with serious consequences. A Chatham and Dover engine,
which was being shunted on the out-metropolitan line of rails at Charlotte-street juncion, between Blackfriars and Borough-road

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PARIS, TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1882.

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M Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 8-9, 1882.

EGYPT AND THE ANGLO-FRENCH

NOTE. A despatch from Cairo states that the British and French Consuls-General received by telegraph on the previous night from their Governments a Collective Note, explaining in unmistakable terms the resolution of the two Powers to maintain the status quo in Egypt. England and France, such is the tenour of the despatch, having placed the Khedive on his throne, are determined to maintain his authority against any attempts to create disorder. No time has been lost in communicating to the Khedive the purport of the Note. This important piece of news substantially confirms the recent statements of our Paris correspondent, to the effect that measures had been taken by the combined Governments for upholding their resolve to allow no interference with the existing state of things in Egypt. Since the English and French Governments have decided to interpose in certain contingencies, it would be idle to imagine that the mode and conditions of such interposition have not been agreed upon. In this matter details are everything, and it would be futile to resolve to intervene without first ascertaining what form of intervention would be agreeable to both countries. Whatever the precise methods of the occupation, it is tolerably certain that they are already sketched out, and are not left to be selected until the moment a crisis arises. From what quarters such a crisis might arrive is manifest enough. Great Britain and France are resolved not to tolerate disturbance from within or without. On the one hand, the ambition of Arabi Bey and his party, be it honourable or otherwise in its objects, cannot be allowed to assert itself through the medium of military insubordination: the rule of the army must not be substituted for the rule of the Khedive in Egypt. On the other hand, any attempt by Turkey, whether acting on its own inspiration or upon encouragement from other Powers, to make capital out of Egyptian dissension by landing Turkish troops and re-asserting the control surrendered to Mehemet Ali and his successors by repeated firmans, will be in like manner repressed. It is one thing that Turkey should act in Egypt as the mandatory of England and France. The intervention of Turkey in any other shape and under other in-fluences might have very serious results. From any point of view, it is true, the situation is sufficiently serious. We have nothing to add to the views we have receartly expressed upon the subject of an Anglo-French intervention in Egypt. The tenour of Sunday's joint note, however, leaves little doubt that England has,

France in armed intervention, if this should be absolutely necessary in order to preserve the status quo. Now that agreement on this point is established, it is useless to dispute with whom the responsibility of initiation lies. It only remains for both nations to stand by their word, and to do nothing hastily and without due deliberation. The intimations contained in Sunday's note must be read by the light of Lord Granville's recent despatch. Lord Granville dwelt upon the aversion entertained by the British Government for any extension of British dominion over Egypt. He admitted that the only event which could lead us to abandon our quiescent attitude would be the occurrence in Egypt of a state of anarchy. The British Government now, it is true, goes somewhat further and acknowledges Turkish encroachment as another possible cause of intervention, But this addition is a concession to Egyptian liberty, and will not discredit the broad text of British policy in Egypt. That policy remains what it has consistently been, the preservation of Egypt as an open highway, not for us alone, but for all nations. We happen to be the chief travellers along it, but it is far from our wish to monopolise this highway. It must not, however, fall under a possibly hostile control; and England must always, therefore, be mainly concerned in seeing that it remains neutral ground. We have no wish to occupy Egypt, and still less to be at the expense of governing it. But it is of vital importance to us that the isthmus should not be closed either by foreign occupation to which we ourselves were no party, or by a military émeute. Our reluctance to enter upon a joint Anglo-French intervention could not resist such a challenge. The English and French Governments have now, for good or for evil, put the question beyond a doubt. The proper corrective to all exaggerated suspicions of the intentions of the two Powers in the matter is to bear in mind that the armed intervention hinted at in the Note is only destined to meet emergencies which were certainly not imminent before the presentation of the Note, and are still less likely to arise since it has been presented. It was highly desirable that the intention, once formed, should be communicated and that the Khedive's Ministers should be allowed the oppprtunity, which they

have taken, of giving it the widest pub-

licity. The very knowledge of the deter-

mination of England and France is the

surest safeguard against the disturbance

of the existing equilibrium. But the point

ought to reassure all parties is that

though very rejuctantly, decided to join

last resort. To that the concert of Eng- | undermine and to alter the Constitution, land and France is pledged. We can only intervene to baffle force by force. If Aribi Bey and his party take this well to heart, they will recognize that they have nothing to fear from the joint manifesto .-Times.

THE CRISIS IN GERMANY.

Not only Prussia, but the German Empire, suddenly finds itself in presence of a grave Constitutional crisis. The Imperial Rescript, countersigned by Prince Rismarck, and addressed to the Prussian Ministry, is certainly calculated to chasten the ardour of those political theorists who imagine that the absolute and uncontrolled authority of a Representative Parliament is the beginning and end of Government. The German Emperor seizes the occasion afforded him by the recent proceedings in the Imperial Parliament, to remind the nation over which he rules that such an idea has never been accepted by the Prussian Crown por embodied in the Prussian Constitution. During the recent General Elections, which turned out less favourable to the Government than the Government had anticipated, various officials exerted themselves with frank and conspicuous vigour to promote the return of candidates friendly to the policy of the Executive. Loud remonstrances have been raised in the Reichstag over these iucidents, and the Imperial Rescript may be regarded as a rejoinder to these complaints. "I am far from wishing," says the Emperor, "to restrict the freedom of elections; but in the case of those functionaries who are entrusted with the execution of my official acts, and can, therefore, in virtue of the Discipline Law, be removed from their posts, the duty which, in their oaths of office, they swore to perform extends to supporting the policy of my Government, even at elections. The faithful discharge of this duty I shall acknowledge with thanks; and I shall expect all officials, keeping in view their oath of allegiance, to hold aloof, even at elections, from all agitation against my Government. The purport of these sentences is unmistakeable. Many Englishmen will doubtless see in them the violent assertion of the most extravagant principles of Royal Prerogative. But if, discarding traditional prejudices, we endeavour dispassionately to discover what it is exactly for which the German Emperor contends, we shall perhaps find his declaration not quite so unreasonable as it at first sight appears. Only the other day Mr. Bright affirmed that all the freedom he wishes for is such as is compatible with the freedom of others. The German Emperor asks for much the same. He demands for the Crown, which is an integral part of the Constitution, and ha distinct rights of its own, that freedom to intervene in the elections which is enjoyed by everybody else. The National Liberals, the Progressists, the Ultramontanes are free to say, "These are our candidates. Well and good. Then the Government holds itself to be equally free to say, "These are my candidates." The Prussian Government and the German Government are essentially bureaucratic; and the number of officials receiving their appointments direct from the King is something enormous. The King naturally objects to allow the people he nominates to agitate azainst the policy he is labouring to promote: and though he does not go so far as to say that he shall expect all officials to work in the interest of the Government actively and assiduously, he allows it to be seen that a distinction will be made between those who conduct themselves in this manner and those who take refuge in neutrality. The principles here laid down and thus applied cannot be properly estimated unless we begin by recognising a broad and fundamental distinction between the position of the Crown, as it exists in England, and the position of the Crown in Prussia and in Germany. We have grown so accustomed to the formula, The Monarch reigns, but does not govern," that many people regard it not only as the representation of a fact, but as an embodiment of right. Nothing could be more erroneous. It so happens that the course of our history has resulted. for good or for ill, in placing the Sovereign in that position; but it does not follow in the least that such a position is in harmony with reason, or the interests of the country. It is a political experiment, like another. In Germany a different experiment has hitherto been tried, and though German Liberals are strenuously labouring to assimilate their Constitution in essentials to ours, the Emperor and the Emperor's chief adviser, Prince Bismarck, have not the smallest intention of allowing them to succeed, if it can be prevented. In England the Sovereign formally assents to legislation, but is in no wise responsible for it. The assent of the Queen, for instance, to the Irish Land Act, does not involve her Majesty in any of the reproaches that are being addressed to its real authors. But in Germany no measure of such importance could be passed, and it could with difficul y be introduced, without the approval and the desire of the Crown. In the same manner, while the Ministers of the Crown in England are not in reality chosen by the sovereign, but are indicated to her directly or indirectly, by what it is the custom to call public opinion, but what, to speak more correctly, in reality is the wish of the majority of the moment, in Germany the Emperor chooses his Ministers without troubling himself to inquire whether they represent a majority or a minority of the suffrages of the commu-"I do not serve you," said Prince Bismarck the other day to the Reichstag; "I serve the King." This is what the Imperial Rescript published on Saturday means, when it says, "The official acts of the King . . . remain the official acts of the King in whose resolve they have their origin, and who, in them, gives Constitutional expression his will. It is therefore not permissible, and can only tend to obscure the

Constitutional rights of the King, to

represent their exercise as proceeding

from the responsible Ministers, and not

from the King himself. The Constitution

of Prussia is the expression of the Mon-

archical tradition of this country, whose

development rests on the living relations

of its Kings to the people," People may

like or dislike these assertions, according

to their temperament and to their political

ideals; but it is unquestionable that they

embody an actual fact, and that the

Emperor, in recalling and restating his

prerogative, is acting in the spirit of the

Constitution. It is true that the Liberals

and they have, no doubt, a perfect right to do so. At the same time, the Sovereign has an equal right to defend the Constitution against them, and this is what is attempted in the Imperial Rescript .-

The Daily. News observes :- The news of the Royal and Imperial coup d'état at Berlin has come as a surprise on Europe. We have on some previous occasions compared Bismarckism to Bonapartism, and have ventured to foreshadow the same end to both. Happily the fate of the German Chancellor does not involve the fate of an Empire or a monarchy, but only of a system of State-craft. The dynasty of the Hohenzollerns preceded by many generations the advent of the man of blood and iron, and it will probably long survive him. The latest act of Prince Bismarck suggests another parallelism drawn from French history of an earlier date than that of the Second Empire. The Rescript of January 4, 1882, which appeared in the Reichs Anzeiger on Saturday evening, bears a close analogy to the Ordinances of 25th July, 1830. We do not wish to push the parallelism too far. The effects will probably not be as instant and as overwhelming in Berlin now as they were in Paris more than half a century ago. In their main result, and personal accidents apart, they may be the same in Germany as in France, and more permanent, though longer in coming about. Prince Bismarck is not likely to incur the fate of Prince Polignac, nor is the Emperor-King in danger of expiating his Rescript as Charles X. explated his Ordinances. But it seems likely enough, in the one case as in the other, that in the long run and after a period of conflict the effect of the assertion of the principle of personal sovereignty will be to supersede it by the establishment of a more truly Constitutional and Parliamentary monarchy. This transition, which was suddenly effected in France by a change of persons and of dynasties, will probably be more slowly and securely brought about in Prussia by a change of system. It is possible, though the Vossische Zeitung disputes it, that the theory of the Prussian Constitution is correctly stated in the Imperial Rescript countersigned by Prince Bismarck. It is probable, again, that the Royal Ordinances countersigned by Prince Polignac were inconsistent with the Fourteenth Article of the Charter of 1814. But the question is only technically one of legal interpretation. The principles implied in the Ordinances of July, 1830, and those distinctly avowed in the Rescript of January, 1882, are alike inconsistent with Parliamentary government as it is practised in every really free country.

GERMAN OPINION ON THE EMPEROR'S RESCRIPT.

The Vienna correspondent of the Standard telegraphed on Sunday night:-

Since the time of the Parliamentary conflict some twenty years ago so deep and universal a sensation has never been created as by the Imperial Rescript published yesterday at the head of the official Stuatsanzeiger. Your readers will easily comprehend that the surprise is greatest among those who believed the Prussian Constitution entirely similar to the English. The Imperial enunciation is a clear proof of the correctness of the view taken in your recent leader, which has been much appreciated here, that the German Emperor and Prussian King is not simply a reigning but also a ruling Sovereign. The publication, moreover, confirms my communications, which have been frequently and vehemently attacked by the Liberals here, and in which I state that the Emperor considers the acts of the Government as personal ones, and claims the right for himself and his successors per-

sonally to lead the policy of the State. Article 43 of the Prussian Constitution, which is cited in the Imperial Rescript, makes the person of the King inviolable. Article 44 says that the King's Ministers are responsays that the King's Ministers are responsible for all Governmental acts of whatever nature, and that in order to be valid those acts require the counter-signature of a Minister, who thereby under-takes the responsibility for them. The closing passages of the Declaration expressly state the Emperor's complete agreement with Minister von Puttkammer's explanations in the Imperial Parliament, which it will be remembered excited the greatest sensation in the ranks of the Opposition members, who believed that Herr von Puttkammer was only uttering his private opinions, whereas the Emperor now fully and explicitly adopts and

sanctions that Minister's statements. The gravity of the situation created by the Emperor's immediate interference and direct interposition in political affairs is patent to every one, and the seriousness of will become still clearer after the declarations and discussions that will certainly take place upon the subject in the German Parliament and Prussian Diet. It will then be seen that the hint thrown out in the Political Correspondence of Vienna as to an impending conflict did not refer to an early dissolution of the German Parliament, but to the differences between the Imperial and Liberal views on the rights of the Crown. The Conservative press reproduces the declaration either without comment, or in some organs with appreciative remarks. The Liberal journals, on the other hand, dwell on the fact that the Promulgation is countersigned by Prince Bismarck, who thus becomes responsible for it. The Rescript is generally interpreted, not so much as a verdict on the past, as a hint for the future. This becomes the more comprehensible when we consider that next autumn the term of the present Prussian Legislature expires, that the German Parliament will probably be dissolved, and that new elections will then have to take place for both Parliaments. The Liberal papers are unani-mous that the Deputies will continue to guard the Constitution, knowing that the electors are behind them. There is hardly a doubt that a number of the Representatives, being Government officials in active service, will immediately resign their seats or else their offices. The fact that the issue of such a Declaration is possible has made the deepest impression on the entire population. one cares to discuss the subject, for all feel the profoundest regret that the Emperor William, after so long and glorious a career, in which he has so often shown himself one with his people, should now consider himself under the necessity of making such an

assertion of his Imperial rights.

The impression produced by the Imperial declaration continues to deepen. It is the single topic of conversation in all classes and ranks of society. The warmest discussion is about the passage respecting the duties of officials in elections. It is asked whether the Rescript will not necessitate serious changes in the laws affecting officials and their rights. The Radicals maintain that neither declaration of the rights of the Crown nor of the duties of officials harmonises with the Constitution; and Article 62 of the Prussian Constitution is quoted, according to which legislative power is exercised jointly by the King and the two Chambers." The Decree will certainly soon be made the object of a no intervention will take place save in the of Germany are steadily labouring to Parliamentary que

The Berlin correspondent of the Daily News telegraphed on Sunday night:-I think I may say without exaggeration that few political events have occurred in Europe during the last ten years which are likely to

excite such surprise as yesterday's publication of the Royal Message. This event, which immediately precedes the reassembling of the German Parliament, will have the most important influence upon the German Constitution. Of late, frequent meetings have occurred between the Emperor and Prince Bismarck respecting internal affairs, and this last message proves that the long-threatened con-flict between the Chancellor and Parliament has begun at last. Prince Bismarck, whose dislike of Parliamentary government is his torical, now shows with what weapons he intends to fight the Opposition. To what this will lead, the future alone can tell. Present circumstances hardly permit me to give an epitome of public opinion but the following extracts from the Press may probably be in-

The Clerical Germania, which has lately been edited by Herr von Kehler, whose personal feelings have evidently turned towar is the Conservatives, remarks that the Left will probably attempt to discuss the Royal Message as a matter of principle, "but it appears to us," says this organ, "that the Royal sovereignty should have its full power." I may here remark that the sud-den tendency which this Ultramontane

organ has towards Conservatism promises well for a friendly feeling between Prince Bismarck and the Pope. The Buersen Courier, which is a Progressist organ, states that the well-known phrase "Le Roi regne, mais il ne gouverne pas" has no meaning in Prussia or Germany. The Berliner Tageblatt makes a somewhat similar remark, while the Liberal Vossische Zeitung remarks on Articles 43 and 44 of the Pru-sian Constitution on which the new Royal Message is based, that Article 43 states that it is impossible to hold his Majesty personally answerable, and Article 44 that his Majesty's Ministers are responsible. All Royal Acts must necessarily bear the signature of the Minister, who therefore becomes respon-sible. This organ, which is the oldest and most respected newspaper in Prussia, says it is now impossible to avoid a conflict, and hopes that the people will stand true to their representatives in Parliament in order to protect the Constitution. The Free Trade organ Die Tribune remarks :- "We believe we do

our duty when we simply print the Royal Message without comment." The Liberal National Zeilung has a long and interesting article on the subject, but it is written with such freedom that it will not admit of quo-Some idea of the amount of power which this act gives to the Government may be conceived when one thinks of the large popula-

tion of Germany which is under State control. The postal, telegraphic, and railway services are Government institutions. Therefore as ordinary letter-carrier, or a plate-layer on the State railways, risks his position if he does not meet the requirements as at present for-mulated. I forgot to mention that the Conservative papers make no comment upon the Royal Message. The other papers here speak of the work which the present Parliament has elore it. The great question, however, is how long this body will exist. A dissolution is expected shortly, but in all probability will take place before midsummer, as the Government have great hopes on the latest orders issued, and in case of new elections will spare no pains to place things as they should be. The recall to duty of the bureaucrats of the most bureaucratic Empire in the world is not

likely to fait in the end, as the officials of all grades have been promised thanks from the highest quarters. The students of anti-Semitic proclivities, who are naturally overflowing with ardent patriotism, actually sent an address of thanks to Prince Bismarck at a late hour last night in consequence of the

Royal Message.

The Berlin Correspondent of the Times says :- I need not enlarge on the aims and consequences of the policy enunciated in the above surprising document, which carries its own character on its face, and explains itse in every line. Your readers are quite able to draw their own conclusions about it Hitherto the Liberal Press only has commented on it. Opinion is naturally in this case more implied than expressed, and may be summed up in the three words—surprise, bewilderment, and determination. "That our Kaiser Wilhelm," remarks a Progressist print 'after a long and glorious rule, during which he has always been at one with his people, should now see fit to make such a declaration of his Sovereign rights will be felt with very much grief and sorrow." Some Liberal journals publish the weighty announcement without one word of criticism, while one Radical print has issued a special edition and distributed gratuitous copies all over the town. The Reichstag reassembles to-morrow, and probably public feeling on the subject will vent itself in some bold and unambiguous

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

way.

OSBORNE, SATURDAY. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Waterpark, and her Majesty walked with the Princess this morning. Prince Leopold drove, attended by the Hon. A. Yorke.

SUNDAY The Queen drove out yesterday. The Very Rev. Dr. Bradley, D D., Dean of Westminster arrived at Osborne yesterday, and kissed hands on his appointment as Dean of West-minster, and afterwards had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family. Her Majesty, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, and the members of the Royal Household, attended Divine service at Osborne this morning. The Dean of Westminster

The Prince of Wales, attended by Colonel Teesdale, arrived in London on Saturday morning from visiting Prince and Princess Christian at Cumberland Lodge. His Royal Highness visited the Duke of Cambridge at Gloucester House, and lunched with Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne at Kensington Palace.

The Morning Post says :- The marriage of the Duke of Albany and Princess Hélène of Waldeck, although no date has been officially announced, will, it is anticipated, take place early in March at Windsor Castle, either in St. George's Chapel or her Majesty's private chapel within the palace. Their Royal Highnessess, after the nuptials, will probably use Claremont House, near Esher, as an occa-

The Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne left Charing-cross for Ashford on Saturday afternoon on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh at Eastwell Park. The Duke of Rutland has during the past

few days been sufficiently recovered to appear A marriage is arranged between the Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham and Lady Elizabeth Bryan, sister of the present Mar-

quis of Conyngham.

The Countess of Rosebery gave birth on Sunday to a son and heir at Lansdowne House, Berkeley-square.
The body of Viscount Helmsley, who died at Madeira on the 21st ult., was landed at

Southampton on Saturday from the schooner Mr. and Mrs. Richardson Saunders have arrived at Claridge's Hotel from Pitchley

Hall. Northampton. A marriage, says the Post, is arranged between Mr. F. E. G. Astley, Scots Guards. eldest son of Sir John Astley, Bart., and Lady Gertrude Pelham, only daughter of the ess of Yarborough, and sister of the VANITY FAIRINGS.

The new year has brought its usual amount of festivities, pretty gifts, and still prettier cards. The latter increase in number every year, and many of them are works of art. Indeed I am told that they are a lucrative source of employment to ladies who design those pretty emblems, and receive large sums for anything really original from Messrs. Marcus Ward, Delarue, and other pub-

Private theatricals have been the rage, and continue to be so during the holidays. This is thought to be a legitimate way of utilising the surplus spirits of youth, and parents feel that the vacations are not altogether so complete a waste of time if the memory is improved and a taste for the drama cul-

In London children's parties and juvenile balls abound. Lady Dudley provided a mag-rificent tree for her young friends at Dudley House, and every one of the little guests came away enriched with lovely toys and trinkets; even the smallest were not forgotten, and gutta-percha dolls and squeaking pigs were provided for babies in arms. This entertainment lasted from four till eight, and was one of the prettiest sights imaginable.
On all sides I hear of nothing but country

lances. Hampshire is looking forward to no less than five dances in the space of a fort-night. That given by the lady patronesses of Basingstoke will probably be the best; while the hospital ball, which is given every year in the Guildhall, Winchester, is always

It remains to be seen whether Mr. Gye, who went from Berlin expressly to see Hérodiade, will be able to adapt the opera to the taste of an English audience, which would probably be disgusted with a travestie of Scripture in which sentences taken from the most sacred portions of the New Testament are put into the mouth of John the Baptist, whilst he forfeits all title to respect from the public by his antics on the stage with a dancing-girl.
Two female British tourists in Rome went

the other day to see the meet of the hounds, announced to take place outside the Porta Maggiore. They sat for two hours on the steps of the church of Santa Maria Maggiore, in the Piazza del Esquilino, and returned to their hotel wondering how it was that " the dogs had never come.

There was great excitement among the followers of Lord Galway's hounds when they met at Serleby Hall last week. In crossing the River Idle, the son of the Memher for East Retford and the horse of Mr. Mappin suddenly disappeared in the foaming torrent. The rider managed to get safely to torrent. The rider managed to get salely to the bank, but the horse, with its legs caught in the bridle, was carried helplessly down the stream, when one of the hunt, with a great devotion to the saving of equine life, jumped nto the river, and, having released the horse's legs, brought it to land.

Sportsmen in all counties unite in pro-nouncing this to have been one of the best seasons for game ever known in England. Phrasants have been lately as plentiful and nearly as cheap as poultry in the London

The new Yacht Club at Oban has been started. If distinguished patronage can make a Club, it ought to be a great success .-Vanity Fair.

"CUCKOO" NOTES.

The great West-end rendezvous just now is the Grosvenor Gallery Library, where for three guineas a year you can look at the books and gape at fashion all day long. This

is, of course, all in the interests of art.

Mr. A. M. Sullivan resigns his seat, not altogether from party pique. He is anxious to get the Parliamentary law practice which belongs to Irish legislation, and which is naturally greatly increased by recent events. This is an enormously paying description of work; and it is that which the M.P. for Meath aims at.

Fashion continues to put back the hands of the clock. In these candid times the fact need not, perhaps, be spoken of with bated or, perhaps, it should rather be described as upon a good many of us once more. In his earliest book, Charles Dickens portrays "a little coquette with a large bustle, who looked like a French lithograph, appealing to a gentleman in three waistcoats." This lady in her "old form," has reappeared in society and glimpses have even been caught of gentlemen in manifold waistcoats. Even by way of figure of speech, a bustle may hardly be described as the thin edge of the wedge; but assuredly the bustle prepares the way for the crinoline petticoats, the hoop, the "jupon gonflé comme une voile de chaloupe." Are the ladies prepared to bird-cage their lower limbs again after the vogue of five and twenty vears ago? Is woman to be again encircled with wire-work like a landed estate within a ring-fence? Are the hooped beauties of John Leech to be brought back to existence? As for the question of many waistcoats, that is a matter chiefly concerning man and his tailor. John Forster relates how, after a dinner party, he helped Rogers on with his over-shoes for his usual night walk home. "Do you know how many waistcoats I wear?" asked the poet. Forster admitted his inability "Five!" he said, "and here to guess. "Five!" he said, "and here they are." Upon which, as Ferster relates, he opened them, in the manner of the grave-digger in Hamlet, and exhibited them in turn. It is years since the gravedigger in Hamlet ecomplished the practical jest of removing innumerable waistcoais. But, no doubt, Mr. Irving could revive this traditional business upon his next representation of Hamlet. If eed be, the gravedigger can be again in the fashion.

We understand that the Duke of Edinburgh is engaged in composing an operetta. The scene is laid in a Russian village. The music is said to be bright and several of the numbers somewhat original.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE " DAILY NEWS.")

We understand that Mr. Parnell's friends are making efforts to secure his release be-fore the opening of Parliament. We believe that this matter forms one of several questions connected with Ireland, which will be considered by the Cabinet.

It is reported that the Lord Justiceship of Appeal, vacant since the death of Sir Robert ush, has been offered to Sir John Holker, but that Sir John's absence from the country may cause some little delay in the completion

of the arrangements. The death of Sir James Colvile and the resignation of Sir Montague Smith, both paid members of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, having enabled the Govern-ment to create a third Lord of Appeal, with peerage tenable till death or resignation of office, but not hereditary, the post, which is worth six thousand a year, has, it is said, been offered to and relused by both the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General.

We understand that the repeated disclosure and publication of confidential documents and other breaches of official good faith have engaged the attention of the Cabi-net, and that the matter will be investigated by a Ministerial Committee, with a view to the prevention of similar offences in future.

(FROM THE "STANDARD.")

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, after fully considering the arguments brought forward by the Government of the Straits Settlement, has, we understand, decided to reduce the amount of liability on the part of the Colony towards defraying the expenses of the late campaign in Perak, by a sum of

THE DRAMA. CRITERION THEATRE.

There was no mistaking the laughter which welcomed, on Saturday night, the performance of The Great Divorce Case at the Criterion Theatre, whence Foggerty's Fairy was withdrawn after a somewhat short career. The high spirits and fun of this adaptation of M. Hennequin's Le Procès Veauradieux are un-mistakable, and though they are of the most posterous order, they are sustained with an ingenuity which sometimes becomes artistic. Most playgoers who care for Palais Royal farce remember how two young barristers, hood-winking their mothers-in-law and their wives by referring to a "great divorce case" on which they are engaged, avail themselves of a supposed consultation for an evening's bachelor amusement How their adventure lands them in the Langham Hotel, what strange company they meet, how they entangle themselves in the affairs of their clients, and in what disastrous confusion their escapade ends—all this has been told more than once. It seems, however, that familiarity with the plot and the characters has robbed the piece of none of its merry attraction. Nor is this to be wondered at considering how admirably Mr. Charles Wyndham, Mr. Maltby, Mr. Standing, and their associates manage to work up the fun, whilst they skate over its dangerous places. In the Pilkie of Mr. Alexander Knight, Mr. Wyndham's Geoffrey

Gordon is now provided with an excellent foil.
The stolid, serious air of the one forms a most useful contrast to the excitable animation of useful contrast to the excitable animation of the other; and these two, with Mr. Standing as the representative of a gay dog of a very different stamp, make much more out of one scene in the last act than we have ever before seen attempted. Mr. Maliby, also, is extremely droll as that sleeply old rake Weathersby Grandison; Mrs. John Wood brings out humorously all the peculiarities of the typical mother-in-law of farce, and Miss Rose Saker and the two Miss Rorkes throw what spirit is needed into their for throw what spirit is needed into their respective roles. The Great Divorce Case is all nonsense, of cours, ant it is rather reckless nonsense too. But it is small wonder that, dealt with as it is by Mr. Wyndham, it should prove capable of entertaining its spectators. A valuable addition to the safety of the theatre in case of fire or panic is now provided, in a new exit from the stalls, as well as from other parts of the house, leading to Jermyn S reet. Moreover, we are assured that the whole of the auditorium is lighted by a separate supply of gas, that the engines and machines of the Norton Ventilating Com-pany, now in use, have been proved capable of immediately clearing the theatre of smoke, and finally that every part of the stage has been rendered, by a chemical process, wholly non-inflammable. It would seem, therefore, that, for a theatre situated as the Criterion is, the risks from fire have been reduced as low as possible. - Observer.

The re-opening of the Olympic last week with Mr. Sims's farcical comedy The Member for Slocum completed the long list of novelties and other changes of programme arranged for Christmas and the New Year. About Mr. Sims's play little farther needs to be said than that it is scarcely played so effectively as it was on the occasion of its rec at the Royalty. It is a bright, lively piece of its exaggerated kind, and the part of its heroine, Arethusa, demands for its due impersonation an acress with more experience and a stronger sense of fun than Miss L. Telbin at present possesses. Mr. F. W. Irish, however, as Onesimus Epps, the Member for Stocum, and Miss Harriet Coveney, as poor Epps's mother-in-law, play with considerable declars, and with the sustained animation drollery and with the sustained animation which such a piece chiefly needs if it is to make its intended mark. The Rustic Maiden, a new musical and domestic drama, which commences the entertainment, does so in a very half-hearted manner. It is neither one thing nor another; and its musical embellish-ments in the shape of ballads sung by the heroine are introduced very awkwardly indeed. It is impossible, even for the least sophisticated playgoer, to get up any semblance of interest in the childish plot and dialogue of The Rustic Maiden, which is, moreover, poorly acted. Of the vocal opportunities of the heroine, however, Miss St. Quinten makes the most, easily obtaining an encore for the several ditties which he is asked to sing à propos of nothing particular.

Toole's theatre, as the Folly is in future to be called, will reopen at the end of the month, a new comedy by Mr. Byron being presented either then or shortly afterwards. The alterations now in progress will add greatly to the convenience of approach to the stalls, and also increase the accommodation both of pit and dress circle.

Family festivities have generally been regarded as diminishing the attendance of box visitors during the period immediately following Christmas; but the influence of their social gatherings has been not so perceptible as formerly, and at the pantomime-producing houses the higher priced seats have been unusually fully occupied. The London theatres are for the most part so well furnished at this time with attractive entertainment that few changes of programme are

likely to occur during January.
Old comedies, commencing with The School for Scandal, are to be given at a series of morning performances at the Vaudeville Theatre. In the cast will be included, as Sir Peter, Mr. W. Farren; Charles Surface, Mr. H. Neville; Joseph Surface, Mr. Frank Archer; Sir Oliver Surface, Mr. J. Maclean; Crabtree, Mr Thomas Thorne; Lady Teazle, Miss Ada Cavendish; Mrs. Candour, Mrs. Arthur Stirling; Lady Sneerwell, Mrs. Canninge; and Maria, Miss Alma Murray.

The pantomime at Drury-lane is an enor-

mous success; and, with the advanced prices of admission to the stalls and other charges, the receipts have been as high as £500 a

Mr Harry Jackson has purchased from Mr. Henry Pettitt the American right of the Adelphi drama Taken from Life, for which, in the interest of a Transatlantic manager, he has paid the large sum of £1,400. The colonial right of Mr. F. A. Scudamore's

drama Fighting Fortune has been secured by Mr. Frank Towers, who is organising a com-

pany for its production.

Mr. George Rignold, having completed his engagement at the Princesa's, will sail for Australia on the 26th inst.

MUSIC

The prospectus of the ensuing season of opera at Her Majesty's Theatre furnishes abundant proof of the undiminished energy of the manager, Mr. Carl Rosa. The season will commence on Saturday, January 14, when Herr Richard Wagner's Lohengrin will be represented with the same cast as in 1879. Herr Anton Schott will next Saturday find himself at home in the rôle of Lohengrin, Mr. Rosa having wisely decided on adopting the low Continental pitch. Lohengrin will be followed by The Flying Dutchman, January be followed by The Flying Dutchman, January
16. and subsequently by Rienzi and Tannhauser. In fact, Mr. Rosa will provide a
"Wagner Cyclus," consisting of Herr Wagner's first four operas, written before his
"third manner" had been adopted. The
new English version of Tannhauser has been
written by Mr. J. P. Jackson. Balle's early

opera, Pittore e Duca, translated and adapted by Mr. W A. Barrett, will be produced pro-bably in the second week of the season, under the title of The Painter of Antwerp. It contains an abundance of the spontaneous melodies which flowed from Balfe's pen throughout his successful career as an operatic composer, and will be awaited with inte-rest. Another novelty will be an English adaptation, by Mr. W. Grist, of Berlioz's Benvenuto Cellini. With these additions,

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A Great-Britain.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 9 -10, 1882.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE CLOTURE Sir Stafford Northcote gave notice on Thursday evening that when the Prime Minister brings forward his Resolutions regulating the Procedure of the House he shall oppose the First, embodying the Cloture. Mr. Marriott, one of the Liberal members for Brighton, has also given notice of an Amendment to the effect that no Rule of Procedure can be considered satisfactory which confers the power of closing the Debate on a bare majority of members. In fact, the more Mr. Gladstone's first " new Rule" is considered, the more the certainty grows that the House of Commons will refuse its assent to it. The whole drift of public opinion is clearly and resolutely against it: it is faintly defended by a few timid Ministerialist journals, and vigorously denounced everywhere else. Nor is there anything in the state of public affairs to warrant so extensive a suppression of the rights and liberties of Parliament as Mr. Gladstone now proposes; for although the difficulties which impede legislation are in themselves a great evil, the endowment of the Ministry with an absolute and despotic authority would be a far greater one, and only to be borne under the pressure of some tremendous national crisis such as was held by the ancient Romans to justify a Dictatorship. To pretend that such an innovation is necessary to ensure a speedier passage of for his gain. No, it may not be gainsaid, Bankruptey Bills, or County Board Bills, England is a very good place to go away or Rivers Conservancy Bills, is an outrage | from in the winter and early spring. It is on the public common sense. The proposal is nothing less than to confer on the Government of the day the power of terminating Debates exactly when it chooses, by the fiat of a bare majority. The sham conditions by which the proposal is accompanied only make matters worse, because they show that the authors of it are aware of its arbitrary character. When less than forty members oppose the application of the Clôture, this opposition may be overruled by any majority whatsoever. If thirty-eight are against it, thirty-nine can silence them. It is only when the minority exceeds forty that a show of moderation is introduced by the provision that the majority in that case must number more than two hundred members. Thus, if the minority be forty, the majority must be two hundred and one; but then if the minority be two hundred, the majority need be no larger, for two hundred and one would still be enough. In the same way, two hundred and fifty could silence two hundred and forty-nine; three hundred could silence two hundred and ninety-nine, and that, too, without debate or protest. The limitation imposed is a mere form, which, in so far as it masks the real nature of the Rule, only makes it more dangerous. As the Minister will always have the required number at his disposal-for one who has not must very soon cease to be Ministerit is clear that if the Rule is passed, the freedom of speech so long enjoyed by members of the House of Commons will be placed entirely at the mercy of one man: and what is really the final cause of Parliamentary Government will cease to exist. Now, we must remind the country that this particular polity, which it is the boast of Englishmen to have matured, has not been maintained so long for the sake of legislation, but for the sake of liberty. We cannot allow the second to be sacrificed to the first, and at any cost the House of Commons is bound to reject this innovation. It cannot be entertained for a moment. If it were to be adopted there would he very little necessity for the other eleven rules which Mr. Gladstone has added to it. Absolute master of the debates, the leader of the House would arrange business as he

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO MENTONE.

pleased, and he would generally be able

to bend private members to his will by

threatening to stop discussion unless they

submitted to his will .- Standard.

The statement has been made, apparently with a political motive, that the Queen's projected visit to Mentone is suggested by failing health, occasioned by political anxiety, and especially by distress as to the state of Ireland. Our readers will hear with satisfaction that there is no foundation for this representation with regard either to the mental or physical condition of the Queen. No one can wonder that the Queen should desire to exchange a few of the bleak and gloomy weeks of an English spring for the bright sunshine and clear air of the Riviera. A residence at Mentone, such as the Court Circular announces that her Majesty intends to make, from March till immediately after Easter, that is till the second week of Aprel, will cut out, as it were, the very core of our season of easterly winds and March dust, and diminish the discomforts of a British winter in a sensible degree. Queen mentions her intention preserving a strict incognita during her stay abroad, and no doubt the deliberate sincerity of this resolve will be recognised by all foreign authorities and carefully carried out. Were it otherwise the little tour could scarcely be looked upon as a refreshing or reposeful holiday. The wish to escape from notice, which though always loyal and respectful may be often very troublesome and tiring, is prohably one of the Queen's motives for taking any other Ministers a holiday abroad. There are others suf-

I ficiently conceivable, however, even to persons who possess Highland castles and villas by the shores of southern England. The complete change of climate supplies a tonic not to be obtained by Britons within the bounds of their own four seas. The change may not be from cold to warmth. On the contrary, it is probable England has during the present remarkable winter enjoyed an average higher temperature than many wintering places in the South of Europe. But the bright-ness of the sunshine, the clearness of the air, they enjoy are something quite unfamiliar in our beloved island. They are enough in themselves to animate the spirits and excite the mind. They make physical exercise a joy, mere existence a pleasure. There is something to be said with truth against every individual town or village on the south line of the French coast. Cannes and Mentone are dull, and have only lately freed themselves from sanitary suspicion. Nice is not dull, but neither is it safe for invalids, from a climatic point of view, owing to its exposure to cold winds. Monaco is wicked. But whatever their defects as points of residence may be, the enchanting roads which wander from one to the other cause them all to be forgotten. If Monaco be wicked, it is with the wickedness of paradise. Nature has done such wonders there, man has not been able to deface them. On the surface, indeed, he has cooperated with her as far as in him lay to produce a perfect result. More lovely gardens are not to be found than those from which the visitor may survey some of the loveliest sea views in Europe. He needs not gamble, though it has been hinted that those guests at the big hotel are most welcome who most risk their luck at the tables. He is provided with admirable reading-rooms and delightful concerts. Under it all squirms the serpent, but a residence of a week or two will not hurt the tenderest conscience. A delightful excursion, not very well-known or very often made, is out to the end of the promontory of Antibes. The view thence is exactly the reverse of that from San Carlo. The coast line right and left divides the blue sea from the lovely green shores in curving lines, the vine and olive-clad hills slope gently upwards crowned with their rock-built villages, and behind all rise the snowy Maritime Alps, looking as if they stood there to guard their Italy, which they have not known how to guard. That view is one which remains indelible in the memory. The man who should travel blindfold there and back again from the heart of a London fog, allowed to gaze and fix it on his heart for the space of half an hour, would not have paid too dearly for English people at any rate (and for some Americans) the best place in the world to live in, but not just at this time of year. What it might be if we consumed our own smoke in another sense from personal consumption of it down our throats is another thing. We in the big towns might then see the sun at other times than in the height of summer, we might know the sky was blue on more exact authority than the assertion of the poets, we might have the nightingales back in London, we might escape the rasping sore throat now threatening to be national and chronic. But even then we should miss much that the sojourner at Mentone will find, and find this year, we trust, in even unusual abundance. The soft refreshing air, the brilliant sunbeams, the vegetation almost tropical in character and luxuriance, the sea bluer, sweeter, calmer than that even which washes our fair Devonshire or Cornwall coasts-all these have a power to soothe and charm peculiar to themselves. Joined to complete abandonment of work, release from responsibility, and cessation from tedious ceremonial, they will, as is the nation's cordial hope, give the Queen the perfect rest and enjoyment they offer to the open eyes and disengaged mind. - Daily News.

> POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE "STANDARD.")

The Queen has been pleased to signify her intention of conferring upon Lord Carling-ford the honour of Knighthood of the Order of St. Patrick, in the room of the late Lord Lurgan.

We believe that a large number of members on the Liberal side of the House object to the Rule regarding the closing of Debate, and that they are privately exerting themselves to induce the Government to make it less stringent in its character.

Information has been received that Mr. Fottrell, the Solicitor to the Irish Land Commission, who was responsible for the issue of the pamphlet to which attention has been drawn in these columns, has resigned his

The bills referring to the Channel Tunnel will, we understand, be referred to the Special Committee, partly nominated by the House and partly by the Committee of Selection. It is expected that the Committee will take evidence on the military part of the

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")

In connection with the new rules which Mr. Gladstone will submit to the House of Commons on Monday next, we learn that Mr. Ashton Dilke intends to move that the number of Standing Committees proposed shall be increased from two to five, and that the new Committees shall deal respectively with Irish and Scotch questions, and with the Budget. Sir George Campbell has already given notice of a Committee for Scotland, and Mr. Dillwyn will also probably propose the appointment of a Budget or Financial Com-

If the House agrees to the Prime Minister's resolution appointing Standing Committees, it is, we believe, intended to find accommodation for them by causing two committeerooms upstairs to be temporarily thrown into one by means of a movable partition.

It will be observed that the rules of pro-cedure of which Mr. Gladstone has given notice makes no provision for dealing with the modern extension of what is known as the question-hour. It is probable that an attempt will be made to remedy this omission by an amendment.

Another matter left unprovided for is the practice of vexatious counting, which so far as the session has gone has been of nightly occurrence, as it was last session. attention of the House will also be called to this matter by an amendment, moved by a

private member. We understand that the Home Secretary does not intend to introduce this session a Water Bill for the metropolis. This will be a matter for consideration after the passing of a measure for the reform of Metropolitan

The President of the Board of Trade will not move for leave to introduce the Bank-ruptcy Bill till after the new rules of proce-dure have been disposed of. Nor will any any other Ministerial measures in the meanIMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF LORDS .- THURSDAY. The LORD CHANGELLOR took his seat on the oolsack shortly before five o'clock.

THE LAND COMMISSION AND THE OATH. Lord Longford moved for a copy of a letter addressed to him by the Secretary of the Irish Land Commission, in explanation of the circumstances in which the pamphlet entitled "How to become the owner of your farm," was printed at the Queen's printing office. Dublin. In doing so he took occasion to condemn some of the notices issued by the Land Commission.

Lord Monck, from a long knowledge of the Secretary of the Irish Land Commission, bore testimony to that gentleman's general

efficiency in the public service.

Lord Carlingford said there would be no objection to the production of the letter; but a correspondence for which he intended to move would put the House in much fuller possession of all the circumstances relating to the publication of "How to become the owner

of your farm."
The motion was agreed to. THE JEWS IN RUSSIA.

The Duke of Somerset asked whether the Secretary of State could communicate to the House any recent information relating to the treatment of the Jews in Russia.

Lord Granville thought it hardly necessary to claim for the Government of which he was a member that they sympathised with the victims of oppression wherever the latter might be found, and it was needless to say that their sympathy would not be less in a case in which the victims were of the Jewish raco: but as to diplomatic interference by us in such a matter, we were precluded from that by the fact that we did not permit such interference by any other Power in reference to British subjects. However, putting aside the question of right, he did not think that anything could be more inexpedient than official interference. As to private and confidential representations, he was sure that no one in the place of Foreign Minister would omit any suitable opportunity of making them; but public comments on those representations would, of course, entirely change their character. Our consuls had communicated the facts which had come to their knowledge, and he now begged to lay on the table a copy of correspondence connected with

Lord SALISBURY concurred with the Secretary for Foreign Affairs in thinking that official representations as to these outrages would be of very doubtful utility.

Lord Shaffesbury was of the same opinion; but thought the few words said on the subject that evening would do good in the cause of the oppressed Jews. Their Lordships adjourned at 10 minutes to

HOUSE OF COMMONS .- THURSDAY. The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock THE RULES OF PROCEDURE.

Sir S. NORTHGOTE gave notice that when the Prime Minister's Procedure Resolutions were brought forward, he would oppose the first, which relates to the cloture.

On the same subject, Mr. Sexton gave notice that before the debate began he would move a "call of the House." Mr. A. Balfour gave notice that he will move to defer the cloture resolution until the others are disposed of, and Mr. Marriott, from the Liberal benches, gave notice that he will move a counter resolution declaring that no rule will be satisfactory which closes debate by a bare majority.

HONOURS AND APPOINTMENTS. In answer to Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. GLAD-STONE stated that her Majesty has been pleased to confer the rank of Privy Councillor on Sir H. Robinson, and also to create Sir E. Wood a G.C.M.G. and Sir H. de Villiers a K.C.M.G. In addition to these honours, the dignity of a G.C.M.G. has been accepted by President Brand, subject to the consent of the Volksraad.

THE OUTRAGES ON THE JEWS IN RUSSIA. In answer to a question from Mr. Serieant Simon, Mr. GLADSTONE said the Government did not think it would be expedient to make any formal representation to the Russian Government in regard to the outrages inflicted on the Jews; and in answer to Sir J. Hay, who suggested the constitutional alternative of dissolution or resignation, he said the Government did not intend to take any steps in regard to the division of Tuesday.

THE ADDRESS.

The adjourned debate on Mr. P. J. Smyth's Home Rule amendment to the Address was resumed by Mr. Dawson, who, speaking as the Lord Mayor of Dublin, pointed out some of the inconveniences of the present system, and was continued by Mr. T. D. Sullivan, who declared that law and order would never prevail in Ireland until the Irish people made their own laws. Mr. Molloy went into details of the system which the Home Rule party desired to substitute for the present onnexion between the two countries, and described the manner in which local affairs would be confided to the Irish Parliament and Imperial matters to the Parliament in London, without impairing the integrity of the Empire. Mr. O'Sullivan maintained that there would be no rest in Ireland until it was Converted from a province into a nation.

At this point Mr. P. J. SMYTH offered to withdraw his amendment, but the Irish

members would not permit this; and Mr. GLADSTONE, after expressing his regret at this refusal, said, with regard to local selfgovernment in Ireland, the Government while they had been reluctantly compelled to postpone the measure they had contemplated on the subject, were thoroughly alive to its importance. As to the wider question of a separate Legislature, he remarked that the discussion had revealed great discrepancies between the supporters of the movement as to what its real object was, and he advised them that their very first step must be to make up their minds as to how and by what authority the functions of the two Legislatures were to be defined, and local distinguished

from Imperial matters. Mr. M. HENRY thought that the difficulties would not turn out to be so great as they seemed to be if Mr. Gladstone would give his mind to them; and Mr. O'Donnell remarked that, however formidable the objections to Home Rule might be, they were not so great as the objections to the present system. Home Rule did not involve separation, for the Irish meant, not only to have local selfgovernment for themselves, but to get their share in the government of the English and Scotch.

Mr. Ewart protested that the loyal men in Ireland would maintain the Imperial con-nexion with their lives, and Mr. Plunket protested against the Prime Minister's invitation to the Irish members to reopen the Home Rule agitation.

Mr. Sexton made a bitter personal attack on Mr. Ewart and Mr. Plunket, and thanked the Prime Minister for showing the Irish members how to convince the English people of the justice and practicability of their scheme. The amendment was then negatived by 93 to 37.

Mr. M'CARTHY next moved an amendmen of great length, setting forth the action of the Irish Executive under the Coercion Acts, and concluding with a declaration that an immediate abandonment of all coercive measures and the establishment of Constitutional Government in Ireland are essentially necessary for the peace and prosperity of the United Kingdom. Dealing chiefly with the arrest of Mr. Parnell, he read numerous extracts from his speeches since the prorogation to show that he had never advocated the non-payment of rent, nor the rejection of the Land Act. On the contrary, he had re-

commended that it should be tested; he had used his influence invariably in favour of order; and in reference to the "prairie value," for which he had been so much censured, Mr. M'Carthy showed that it was borrowed from a speech of Mr. Bright. Considering how the Irish people had been deceived by the Liberal party, it was no wonder that there should be discontent approaching even to disaffection in Ireland, but by suppressing the Land League and arresting its principal members the Govern-ment had deprived themselves of the most potent means of preserving order, and were responsible for all that had occured since.

Mr. W. E. FORETER commenced his defence of his administration by confessing that he had been compelled to put his exceptional powers into execution more largely than he had expected, but he had no alternative unless he had been prepared to allow the country to drift into a condition of excitement which might have led to civil war. He also read extracts from Mr. Parnell's speeches, which he contended proved that his designs were not so harmless as Mr. M'Carthy had repre-sented. It was not, however, for the advice which he had given that Mr. Parnell was arrested, but for the means taken to enforce it, the intimidation, Boycotting, outrages, and murders by which the Land League coerced the people to conform to their orders. Of these practices Mr. Forster related some striking instances, contending that as they could not be punished by the ordinary law, the Government were driven to these arrests, unless they were prepared to allow the Land League to become the real government of Ireland. He admitted that he had been some time in realizing what Mr. Parnell's inten-tions were, but as soon as he felt convinced in his conscience that that gentleman was guilty of inciting to intimidation he advised the arrests. As to the "treasonable practices," though he believed that an organized attempt to substitute private Courts for the Queen's Courts was a treasonable practice, the arrests on that head were made because of speeches which, if permitted to go on, would have brought about a state of feeling certain to end in civil war. In the same manner the Land League was suppressed as soon as it became evident that it was an intimidating organization, and that its members were guilty of intimidation. Of these treasonable speeches, and of the acts of violence by which the " No rent" manifesto was enforced, Mr. Forster gave the House numerous specimens; and passing to the present situation he expressed a confident belief that things were getting better. Landlords were collecting their rents; farmers were finding out that they had been misled by the Land League; and juries were doing their duty. At the same time, the signs of improvement were not sufficient to justify any relaxation of vigilance or to permit the release of the prisoners. At the close of his speech Mr. Forster made some remarks in vindication of the Land Act, which, he said, was beginning to have an effect; and in justifying the character and general conduct Sub-Commissioners, he expressed a very decided opinion that the rents in Ireland had turned out to be larger than the House anticipated when the Act was under discus-

The debate was adjourned on the motion of Mr. Redmond.

The Attorney-General brought in the Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill, and several other Bills were brought in and read a first

The House was counted out at 10 minutes

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, THURSDAY.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Dowager and Duchess of Roxburghe, and her Majesty walked and drove this morning with the Princess. The Earl of Kenmare, K.P., Lord Chamberlain, arrived at Osborne to-day, and had an audience of the Queen to present an Address from the House of Lords in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Mrs. Drummond of Megginch arrived at Osborne yesterday, and had the honour of dining with her Majesty. The Hon. Frances Drummond has succeeded the Hon. Ethel Cadogan as Maid of Honour in Waiting.

According to present arrangements says the Morning Post, the Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, will embark at Portsmouth about March 15, in the steam yacht Victoria and Albert, and, escorted by the Alberta tender, Enchantress, Admiralty yacht, and the Galatea, Trinity House yacht, proceed to Cherbourg, whence the journey will be completed by special train. The return journey will be made in the middle of April, to enable her Majesty to be in England on the marriage of Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, at-

tended by Lady Emily Kingscote and the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt Wilson, went to Windsor on Thursday morning to visit the Duke and Duchess of Connaught at Windsor Castle. The Prince and Princess remained to luncheon, and returned to London in the

A Windsor correspondent says: The Duchess of Connaught has benefited by the change from Bagshot to Windsor Castle. Although still weak, her health has much improved, and her Royal Highness continues to progress favourably towards convalescence.

The Lancet says: "We understand that

the Duchess of Connaught's sudden removal on Sunday from Bagshot to Windsor was in consequence of the unsatisfactory state of the sanitary arrangements at Bagshot Park. For some weeks very offensive smells have been observed about the house, and several of the inmates have suffered from obscure forms of indisposition. Her Royal Highness had made an excellent convalescence for nearly three weeks after her confinement, when she developed symptoms which were thought to depend on poisoning by sewer gas. investigation it was found that a large soilpipe from a disused closet had been simply cut through by a careless workman, and open end, leading directly into the main drain, was left immediately under the flooring close to the central hall, and thus a continuous stream of gas was poured into the house. Dr. Playfair advised that her Royal Highness should be removed to Windsor without delay, to get her out of the infected atmosphere. On Sunday Sir William Jenner met him in consultation by her Majesty's command, and, completely concurring in this view, the removal was at once effected. Happily a very decided improvement in her Hoyal Highness's condition is already apparent, and her symptoms no longer cause serious anxiety.'

The Marquis and Marchioness of Bath and family arrived at their residence in Berkeleysquare on Thursday, from Longleat, War-

The Earl and Countess of Erne arrived at their residence in Eaton-square on Thursday, from Crom Castle, Newton Butler, Ire-

The Earl and Countess of Darnley have left their residence in Hill-street, Berkeleysquare, for Cobham Hall, Kent. Earl and Countess Granville had a dinner party at their residence on Carlton-house-terrace on Wednesday night. Afterwards Lady Granville had a small and early re-

Earl Bathurst has left town for Cirencester House, Cirencester. The Morning Post says that the Earl of gout since the 15th of last month. bulletin or telegraphic statement has been issued at his lordship's house in Grosvenorsquare. Inquiries from the members of the Royal Family and many personal friends have been made, but no further information was obtained. Six years ago Lord Wilton, then in London, was for several weeks in a critical condition, and then suffered from extreme debility, but he pulled through, and his friends hope that he may do so now. It was stated at an inquiry at Egerton Lodge, Melton Mowbray at a late hour on Thursday night that the Earl of Wilton was still in a very critical condition, though he had regained strength to some extent. Altogether there was a decided

improvement. Lord and Lady Tenterden entertained at dinner on Wednesday last, at their residence in Portland-place, his Excellency the German Ambassador, his Excellency the Austrian Ambassador and Countess Karolyi, Count Herbert Bismarck, Earl and Countess of Derby and Lady Margaret Cecil, Earl of Redesdale, the Prime Minister, Mrs. and Miss Gladstone, Lord and Lady Sudeley, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., and Mrs. oschen, Sir Arthur Hayter, M.P., and Lady Hayter, Hon. Miss Abbott, Mrs. Maxwell, and Mr. Sandeson. Lady Tenterden afterwards had a reception, which was attended by the Ambassadors and leading members of the Corps Diplomatique, and by a numerous and

fashionable assembly.

The Bishop of Peterborough is indisposed, and has been compelled to leave Leicester, where a Church mission is being held.

The marriage of Hon. Arthur Henniker, Coldstream Guards, and Hon. Florence Milnes will take place shortly after Easter. The death is announced of the Hon. Douglas Edward Holroyd, brother of the Earl of Sheffield. The deceased gentleman has been staying at Brighton for the last few months, and succumbed yesterday to an attack of paralysis from which he had been suffering. He was 48 years of age.

THE PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS IN

RUSSIA.

The following pastoral has been issued by Dr. Adler, the Chief Rabbi: — "Beloved Brethren,-A persecution great and terrible has come upon the members of the house of Israel in Russia, and their tribulation is great. In many places they have lost all their substance: in others their lives have become the prey of their enemies; deeds of violence have been committed on defenceless women and children. The laws of their country, from which they expected protection, have been powerless to save them from the fury of the populace, and thus our brethren in that land are not only over whelmed with past misfortunes, but tremble for the calamities that may yet come upon them. Many have taken to flight, escaping with naught but their lives. This piteous tale of woe has reached these shores, and has moved the hearts of our Christian fellowcountrymen to lift up their voice in solemn protest against such outrage and oppression. They have also given utterance to their sympathy in words aglow with brotherly love and tender pity. And with the fruit of their lips they have brought the gift of their hands for the relief of suffering. Verily the memory of their words and actions in the season of our affliction will not pass away from us and our children for ever. For the hope is kindled within us that these words will take wing and will reach the heart of the Ruler of Russia and his counsellors, so that they will have compassion upon the oppressed and that the evil will be stayed. But upon us, brethren of the house of Israel, the duty is incumbent to prove, by our willingness to make sacrifices, that we recognise our brotherhood towards those who suffer. Great and urgent is their need. The victims are numbered by myriads; already many thousands have fled from the land of sorrow, and tens of thou-sands will follow them. We must aid them to migrate to distant and happier lands. We must help them to gain subsistence there for themselves and their children by the labour of their hands. To effect this object enormous sums are required; and I call upon you, with all earnestness, to bring your offerings in bounty and in plenty, with a generous heart and an unstinting hand. How can we, who live in safety and happiness in this dear England, endure to see the tribulation of our brethren without trying to help them? How can we, whose lines have fallen in pleasant places, bear to hear of the sufferings of those who are without home and shelter, without raiment and bread, and forbear to open wide our hand to assist them? Surely you are still, as ever, sons of mercy. In mercy, then, hearken to the cry of suffering, and hasten to answer it. Say not the evil is distant; we will shut our ears, because the cry cometh from afar off; but, thanking God that such evil is far away from you and from your homes, prove the greatness of your gratitude by the greatness of your help. And may the Lord vouchsafe to you His blessing and establish the work of your hands."

PERSONATING NOBLEMEN.-At the Birmingham police-court on Thursday, Mary Jane Fearneaux, who gave her age as 42, but looked considerably younger, was charged with obtaining by fraud various sums of money, amounting in the aggregate to between £6,000 and £7,000. The prisoner, who had been brought from Liverpool the previous day, was attired in a Newmarket coat, which gave her a somewhat masculine appearance, though she is of slender figure.

Mr. Rigby, for the prosecution, said the prisoner was charged with obtaining large ums of money by various frauds, and with falsely representing herself at one time to be Lord Arthur Clinton, and, at another, the Earl of Lanesborough. The frauds extended over a period of some seven or eight years. They had been very ingeniously accomplished—so much so, indeed, that the prosecutor, Mr. Beynon, could scarcely be per-suaded they were frauds. In conjunction with a man named Gething, who had been brought up on the previous day, she had obtained some £2,000 from Mr. Beynon, and large sums from Mr. Screen and several other people. The prisoner was remanded for a week. The male prisoner now asserts that he is the dupe of Fearneaux, and that she has ruined him and nearly all his relations. He began, he says, by being bound for her for several loans, all of which he has had to pay. He has in his possession what purports to be a security from Lord Coleridge for £1,000. Three years since he wrote to Lord Coleridge, reminding him of the bond, and asking for help. In reply, he was told that his lordship would put the matter in the hands of the police if he wrote again. This letter, he says, did not shake his confidence. He took it to Mr. Beynon, who replied, "Don't write to Lord Coleridge again, or we shan't have a penny." About that time Mr. Beynon received a fictitious letter, purporting to come from Lord Cole-ridge, which so satisfied him that he was dealing with Lord Clinton that until this week he has never had any doubt in the Gething adds that last week, being ill, and having lost all his money by lending it to "Lord A. P. Clinton," he wrote again to Lord Coleridge, reminding him of the previous letter and the bond he held of his for £1,000. Lord Coleridge, in reply, said he had "placed the letter in the hands of the Birmingham police," and the result was Gething's arrest. About seven years ago, it eems, Fearneaux lodged at the house of a Mrs. Ward, of Aston, and stated, "as a secret," that she was Lord Arthur Pelham Wilton, according to a private letter, received on Thursday afternoon from Melton Mowbray, was, since his relapse on Tuesday last, not worse, but his lordship is very weak from the confinement to his bed. Lord Wilton has been suffering more or less from the

prisoner's story, and advanced money from time to time on the faith of the representations. She also introduced "his lordship" to several of her relations, who were desirous of lending money. Mrs. Ward and her sister, Mrs. Drew, state that they introduced the woman to Gething, who is their brother, and that he introduced her to Mr. Beynon, from whom she obtained £2,000, and to Mr. Screen, from whom she obtained £3,000 by various instalments, giving as "securities" what purported to be valuable deeds and letters from Lord Coleridge, whom she represented as her trustee. During the time that she was borrowing the money, she nearly always dressed as a man "in the height of fashion," with gaiters, lavender kid gloves, and walking stick. In this costume she gained the affection of two young ladies, one of whom became deranged on discovering the fraud and had to be placed in an asylum, where she is still confined. When unable to obtain further loans, Fearneaux took a situation as a governess at Casemere Farm, near Birmingham, but received notice to leave, in the belief that she was a man. She afterwards took a situation as attendant at Prestwick Asylum. Manchester, but did not remain long. When arrested she was living with her mother, at 4, Gregson-street, Liverpool, and was dressed in feminine attire. During the journey, she several times com-plained of illness, and wanted the detective to alight, but no notice was taken of the re-quest, which was believed to be only a part

of an attempt to escape. A WEST AFRICAN TOWN BURNED .- English and French Factories Plundered.—Information has just reached Liverpool of the destruction by fire of the town of Fouricariah, West Africa. The natives, after burning the town, plundered the British factories in the neighbourhood, also a French factory. Several of the owners of the factories and their clerks were missing, and it was feared they had been killed.

Another Warrant against Lord Huntly. -At the Mansion House on Thursday Mr. Besley, barrister, attended before the Lord Mayor for the purpose of renewing an application for a warrant to be issued against Lord Huntly, who had neglected to appear in re-sponse to a summons which had been granted against him requiring him to appear at that court to answer a charge of obtaining over £2,000 by false pretences from Mr. Benjamin Nicholson. The matter, it will be remem-bered, has been several times before the court, and the application had been adjourned from time to time in order that the defendant might appear. Mr. Besley now said that, seeing that the summons of the court had been disregarded, he had to ask the Lord Mayor to issue a warrant against the defendant in the ordinary way. The Lord Mayor at once said that he should grant the application, and ordered a warrant to be is-

TRADE ENTERPRISE IN CHINA.-It is not a little flattering to England, the Building and Engineering Times thinks, that among the many marked changes the Chinese as a nation have introduced in recent years into their arts and manufactures, not a few of them are in close imitation of our own systems. Their arsonals and oun factories and their steam navigation are manifestly borrowed from English ideas, and their enterprise in the matter of coal mining was started originally by an English mining engineer. This work is purely a Government affair, was undertaken in 1876, and is now prosecuted in two distinct districts, one at Keelung, Island of Formosa, and the other at Kaiping near Tientsin, North China. The English mining engineer who inaugurated the system was supported by a staff of only eight or ten foreign workmen. The ordinary mining engines and apparatus in use at home are employed. Much com-plaint was at first made by the engineer of the difficulty in getting the consent of the superintending native officials to extra expenditure or alteration, even when he considered it imperative, but under a change of management things seem to work more smoothly. The out-put has increased from 14,000 tons in 1878 to nearly 30,000 for the first six months of last year, and with one or two more shafts it might be increased to 500 tons a day. One other industry which the Chinese have adopted from Western ideas is the woollen factory, which is carried on by the aid of machinery imported from Europe, but not to any great extent. An unsuccessful attempt has been made also to bore petroleum wells in Formosa. These enterprises certainly are not numerous, but considering what Chins was as a nation within the memory of even young men of the present generation, they show, at least, that the vis inertiæ of the huge masses in that country is beginning to wear off, and that before long we may expect to see China an active and progressive nation.

FUNERAL OF SIR WILLIAM PALLISER .- The remains of Sir William Palliser, late of the 18th Hussars, inventor of the well-known Palliser projectiles, were interred on Thursday in Brompton Cemetery. Shortly before twelve o'clock the funeral cortege, consisting of an open car drawn by four horses in deeply fringed black housings, two mourning coaches, and several private carriages, started from the residence of the deceased, Earl's-courtsquare, and reached the cemetery exactly at noon. Amongst the mourners were Mr. John Palliser, C.M.G., of Comeragh, county Waterford, Captain Wray Palliser, R.N., Captain Edward Palliser, late 7th Hussars, Captain Henry Palliser, R.N., Captain William Palliser, late 8th Hussars, Mr. Joseph Palliser, Colonel Barton, 18th Hussars, Major Adagh, R.E., C.B., and a large number of old brother officers, including many from the War Office, the India Office, and the Horse Guards. There were also present a considerable number of ladies, the majority carrying floral wreaths and crosses, and many personal friends and acquaintances, conspicuous among whom were Sir Henry James, the Attorney-General, colleague of the deceased in the representation of Taunton, and Sir John Hay. But the most remarkable feature in the crowd collected was a large number of working men from the estate of the decease at Baron's Court, whose presence testified to the esteem in which the late Sir William Palliser was held by those in his employment. In the mortuary chapel, as well as at the grave, the Burial Service was read by the Rev. John Henry Cardwell, vicar of Saint Andrew's, Fulham. The coffin, of polished oak with brass mountings, bore the inscriptions:—" Major Sir William Palliser, C.B., M.P. Died 4th February, 1882, aged 51 years." As it was laid in the private mausoeum, where already rested the ashes of the deceased's eldest son, it was strewn with floral tributes of sorrowful affection.

FIRE AT THE ALBERT HALL .- About six o'clock on Wednesday evening a fire broke out in the refreshment department of the Albert Hall, South Kensington. A twogallon measure of spirit was upset, and com-ing in contact with flame ignited, and set fire to the lower part of the refreshment department. The fire-engines were promptly at hand, and the fire was put out before more than local damage was done. Few of the thousands of persons who two hours later attended the performance of Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise" and Rossini's "Stabat Mater" by Mr. Barnby's society knew anything of the occurrence.

THE NATAL COLONISTS AND SIR HENRY BULWER.—Commenting on the appointment of Sir Henry Bulwer as Governor of the Colony, the National Mercury says :- It is childish to suppose that Sir Henry Bulwer

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 10-11, 1882. KING WILLIAM'S MANIFESTO. The manifesto of Saturday is King William's personal act. As the King's Prime Minister, Prince Bismarck had no choice but to countersign it. Yet, for affixing his signature, he is liable to be impeached by the Prussian Parliament. If a Minister do not agree with a decision of the King as incorporated in an act of Government, or do not choose to accept responsibility for it before the nation, he is free to resign, that he may not countersign the Royal decree or join in enforcing an equivocal law. If a subordinate official so differ from the policy of the Government, which is the King's policy, that he feels compelled by his conscience to assail it by his influence and vote, his duty equally is to retire from a post he cannot justly oc-cupy. While he retains it he is bound, his King tells him, to co-operate with the Government, of which he implicitly forms a part, because he is bound to co-operate with the King, whose bread he eats. Prince Bismark's and his master's theory of the Royal prerogative does not differ essentially from the British. A British Sovereign, theoretically, is as unfettered in the exercise of his Royal powers as a Prussian Sovereign is asserted to be. If the Queen thought a Minister engaged in doubtful enterprises, or a legislative proposal immoral, it would be, in theory, her duty to dismiss the Minister and veto the law. Her irresponsibility to the nation and the responsibility of her Ministers do not, in theory, emancipate her from the personal obligation to consult her individual conscience, or them from responsibility also to her. In practice a clear distinction is acknowledged between the Monarch's opinions as a Monarch and personally. The King of Prussia, being theoretically free in the exercise of the prerogative left to him, arrc ates the right to exercise his prerogative freely Acts of Government, being in form his, he declares are his in fact. Incontrovertible evidence that they are, he informs his subjects, is to be seen in his signature appended to them. Practically, his interpretation of the Prussian Constitution, if carried out, lays a burden both upon him and upon his Ministers which neither will be able to bear. An autocrat has difficulty in reconciling himself to the modifications of policy enjoined by circumstances, rare and infrequent as they may be. No constitutional ruler's conscience or selfrespect could stand the incessant strain of continual shiftings of position required to preserve his Government and the nation in amicable relations. According to the recent manifesto, should a Liberal Administration, as sooner or later it certainly will, succeed that led by Prince Bismarck, the Emperor William must be imagined to have turned Liberal, or to have had his individual will put in chains. Personal dignity exacts from the chief of a constitutional State that he should devise a modus vivendi for his double capacity of man and Sovereign. For statesmen in a country possessed of representative institutions it is an absolute condition of usefulness that both their Sovereign and themselves should interpret the responsibility they owe to the nation as signifying that their service is owed to the nation as well as to the Sovereign. The Emperor-King appears to hold that his Ministers are bound to take the whip from, and are not bound to take counsel with, his people. Prince Bismarck is tasting at this moment the sweets of such a doctrine. The Stuart Kings of England entertained the same notion as the Emperor William of the absence of distinction between the Monarch's personal and official qualities. They acted not very dissimilarly in their attempt to treat their Ministers as exclusively their own servants, and not servants of the nation. When an inferior functionary opposed the King's Government, he was speedily taught that the King personally controlled his Government's policy. If there is little fear that the present enunciation by the Emperor and his Chancellor of the worn-out Stuart hypothesis will be followed by its seventeenth century consequences, it is that neither are the Prussian and German Parliaments led by Pyms and Hampdens, nor is the House of Hohenzollern devoid of political instinct like the House of

Stuart. Prince Bismarck may himself

discover inconveniences in a theory of pre-

rogative which, though elaborated for the

direct behoof of the Prussian Crown,

would apply equally to all the other

varieties and shades of German Royalty.

At some near date, when he or a successor

has repented of the endeavours to keep up

obsolete traditions of the Cerman nation's

incompetence to decide on the manage-

ment of national business, the obstinate

separatism of minor rulers may prove a

worse obstruction to German unity than

Parliamentary claims to be self-governed. The motive in any case

for setting up such a pretension

at the present moment seems singularly

inadequate. The Chancellor and his au-

gust master have combined to fulminate

an assertion of divine right against the

Prussian people because the rank and file

of German civilians are suspected of having

swelled with their votes the gigantic ma-

jority against the Chancellor's experiments

in Socialism and Protectionism. Prussian

officials have generally been supposed to

be more than sufficiently docide to their

Government and despotic to their fellow-

subjects. Prince Bismarck makes too

offers, in Saturday's rescript, to the welldrilled Prussian bureaucracy the alternative of siding with the Government against the nation or being cashiered. He ought to perceive that it is time to come to terms with his countrymen, who cannot help admiring and revering him, when he finds himself reduced to terrorise his own clerks for their votes .- Times.

MR. GLADSTONE'S LEGAL APPOINT-MENTS.

By elevating Sir John Holker, a staunch Conservative, to the vacant position of Lord Justice of Appeal, the Government has set an excellent precedent, which will probably be followed only in rare instances. The established rule in English political life is that Judgeships are part of the loaves and fishes which are distributed, as they fall in, to distinguished and capable lawyers belonging to the party in power; and our present Ministry has not nitherto deviated from this ancient custom with regard to judicial prizes. Now, however, that the lamented decease of Lord Justice Lush has placed another coveted legal post at his disposal, Mr. Gladstone has shown great good sense and much generosity in bestowing it upon one so well able in every way to add lustre to his high dignity as Sir John Holker, the present Conservative member for Preston. Some other names had been mentioned for the post, and as a matter of course the appointment was first of all offered to the law officers of the Crown for the time being. These are Sir Henry James, the Liberal Attorney-General, and Sir Farrer Herschell, Solicitor-General, neither of whom appears willing to exchange the freedom and excitement of Parliamentary conflict for the safe repose of the Judicial Bench. Since the present Ministry came into office, there has been a constant succession of deaths or resignations of distinguished Judges. A perfect plethora of legal appointments has consequently fallen into Mr. Gladstone's hands, and the Bench has been in a state of change, which, happening coincidently with the new arrangements necessitated by the amended Judicature Acts, has given a slightly kaleidoscopic character to our Courts of Justice. A solicitor or a barrister who had gone abroad three years ago, and who returned to Londow now, would hardly find one of our Courts either of Equity or Common Law in which extensive changes of judicial "personnel" had not taken place. Among those whom death has removed from us can be mentioned the late Lord Chief Justice of England. Sir Alexander Cockburn, whose office is now filled by Lord Coleridge; Lord Justice Thesiger, cut off in comparative youth; Chief Baron Kelly, and Lords Justices James and Lush. Many retirements have also occurred, such as those of Vice-Chancellor Malins, of Lord Justice Bramwell, and others. This havoc among the occupants of the Bench is something unprecedented, occurring as it did within a very short space of time; honoured names, noted individualities have gone down in the rush, and we are in presence of a new Bench, with a few survivors of old times. That the reputation of the collective "Judiciary" has not suffered must be acknowledged to be a solid tribute to the Judges selected, and also indicates the inexhaustible material for judicial appointments existing in our chief forensic champions, the men who go down to the law courts and draw truth up from its well every day of the sittings of the High Court. No doubt it requires peculiar qualities to make a good Appeal Court Judge. The tribunal is a somewhat anomalous one, inasmuch as it is only intermediate, and its decisions can be reviewed again by the House of Lords. At the time of the passing of the Judicature Acts it was intended that the Appeal Court should be the final tribunal for the whole realm; but custom conquered, and the House of Lords retained its ancient privilege of being the highest Court of Justice. beyond which there lies no appeal, except to the Crown itself. has been found in practice, however, that the Court of Appeal, despite its intermediate character, has a great deal of work to do, and performs a most useful function. For instance, litigants dissatisfied with the ruling of the Judge, or the finding of a jury, take their cases to this Court for review, but it hardly ever happens that they go beyond, and hammer at the august portals of the House of Lords. Great respect is naturally and properly felt for a tribunal which numbers among its members such intellects as those of Sir George Jessel, Lords Justices Brett, Cotton, and Baggallay, and occasionally a couple of present or past Lord Chancellors. It is to this dignified body that Sir John Holker is now transferred, without the preliminary step of a puisne Judgeship, and his appointment happily shows that political passions do not in this country run so deplorably high as to blind statesmen to the legitimate claims of able men among their political adversaries .- Daily

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IN GERMANY. The Berlin correspondent of the Standard telegraphed on Tuesday night:-The Imperial Decree still remains the chief, almost the only, topic of public and private discussion. The Exchange, which is almost always favourably affected by Conservative measures, has been unable either yesterday or to-day to recover from the excitement and depression produced by the proclamation. Private criticisms naturally differ, often very widely, from the utterances of the Press. Under pressure of the rigorous Press Law the newspapers do not dare to reproduce or depict either the general opinion at home or remarks from abroad. Enough, however, remains to show that, according to the views of the Berlin, the German, and the Foreign Press, Prussia and all Germany now have to pass through a very grave crisis. Not even all the Conservative organs express satisfaction with the Imperial declaration. The Post, true to its own judgment upon Herr von Puttkammer's statements with regard to officials, restricts itself to finding the origin of the conflict in the fact that Herr Bennigsen once made his entrance into the Ministry dependent on the entrance of some partisans. Only the extreme Conservative journals fully

approve the Proclamation.

The really Liberal Press of all shades of opinion comments rather freely on the declaration, claiming a right to do so because a responsible Minister, Prince Bismarck, counersigned it. The Cologne Gazette says that 'nobody attempts to touch or to doubt the Monarchical Constitution of the country. Why, then, do things always look as if such doubts were really entertained?" The Weser Zeitung wonders that the Pro-

candid a confession of the irretrievable unpopularity of his recent policy when he
offers in Saturday's rescript to the wellto public discussion. It believes that the countersigned, since it is thereby laid open to public discussion. It believes that the Crown has had bad advice if it has been urged to use means for securing Election results other than such as express the conviction of the population. The Crown by doing this will be running into the danger of self-deception as to the people's real views. The left wing of the Progressists—that is, the partisans of Horr Eugene Richter—ask for a law of incompatibility, whereas Herr Hanel's followers demand a law of Ministerial responsibility which has been already promised by the Constitution, but never yet carried

The Vossische Zeitung states the differences between the Prussian and the German Constitutions. The Governmental acts of the Prussian King may be admissible, but not so the acts of the German Emperor or Prussian King, as regards the Empire. How, it asks, will Prince Bismarck, who countersigned the Declaration, answer for not having called the King's attention to such an anomaly, nor dissuaded him from acting as he has done The Imperial Chancellor ought absolutely to have refused his counter signature, even though as Prussian Premier he might have believed it possible to undertake the respon-sibility; but the Prussian Premier ought not to have allowed the Empire to be controlled by Prussia. Nobody will gainsay that this want of perception is highly regrettable.

THE AMENITIES OF COOMASSIE. It appears that the dreadful report of a massacre of two hundred young girls at Coomassic was too true. They were collected by raiding amongst the tribes bordering on Ashanti, for the object of mixing their blood with the mortar used in building a new palace for the King. After one has surmounted one's natural horror, curious reflections arise :-

Is there any part of the world, saving the Chinese Empire, where a kindred superstition has not made its victims? and the Chinese Empire is excepted rather because we know so little of its antiquity than because we can credit that an universal practice was not followed there. There are few buildings in Europe dating from the earlier Middle Age which have not a legend of the sort attached to them; and a legend prevalent among all races and conditions, from the slave to the Anglo-Teuton, from the Kremlin to London Bridge, most certainly records a general instinct of humanity in its younger and darker stage. This class of legend is usually divided into two branches, of which each has example innumerable. We have the simpler form in cases exactly similar to this Ashanti reproduction—the burial of a young girl alive, or of her slaughtered body in the foundations of cathedral, or church, or bridge. The other form is more poetic. Driven to despair by sinkings of the earth, or crumbling of the upper structure, the master-mason vows-sometimes to the Devil, sometimes to a power unnamed-that he will sacrifice his dearest treasure if this evil influence be stopped. It is invariably a woman or a girl—his wife, his betrothed, or his daughter. The masons build her up living in the wall, and thus destroy the spell. Of the scores of myths and ballads founded on this tragedy the most beautiful, perhaps, is that of the famous of Argis, in Wallachia. two variations of the story be considered thoughtfully, it is evident that they are based, in effect, on the same idea. stability in the great work, evil fortune must be propitiated by a sacrifice of transcendent value. The dearest and most beautiful thing on earth is woman. When the theme is general, so to speak; when the story has no individual hero, girls are made victims without identification; when the story is personal the wife or child of the hero is introduced. Most emphatically, such practices cannot be allowed in this age of the world, if we have power to stop them. But we may think less bitterly of negro superstition when we remember that our own forefathers used the same horrid rites .- Evening Standard.

SIR W. ARMSTRONG ON NATIONAL

DEFENCE. Sir W. G. Armstrong, C.B., F.R.S., delivered, on Tuesday evening, his inaugural address as President of the Institute of Civil Engineers. After tracing in its various phase the contest between gun and armour, he said it had placed our naval authorities under extreme difficulty in deciding upon questions of ships and armament. Not only did we see that armour was unavailing against torpedo attack and ramming, but we were justified in concluding that every attempt to increase resistance to projectiles would be quickly followed by a corresponding increase in the power of artillery. Our early ironclads, like the Warrior, were plated all over with armour 4% inches thick—a thickness which could now be pierced with field-pieces. To resist the most powerful guns now afloat, armour of at least two feet in thickness was required; and in order to reconcile the constantly increasing thickness with the weight which the ship was capable of carrying, it had been necessary to restrict the area of armoured surface to ever-narrowing limits, leaving a large portion of the ship without protection. In those magnificent and tremendous vessels which the Italians were now building the armour would be withdrawn from every part except the battery, where guns of 100 tons would be placed, and where the armour would be confined to a narrow belt of great thickness. Everything of importance that projectiles could destroy would be kept below water level, and, so far as artillery fire was concerned, the ships would be secured against sinking by means of an underwater deck and ample division into compartments. Armour, therefore, seemed gradually contracting to the vanishing point; but until it actually disappeared, it was probable that no better application of it could be made than had been decided upon by the naval authorities of Italy for great ships they were now constructing. The President proceeded to say that for the cost of one ironclad we could have three unarmoured ships of far higher speed, and carrying collectively three armaments, each equal to that of the armoured vessel. Being smaller, they would be more difficult to hit. Being swifter, they could choose their positions. and be free to attack or retreat at pleasure Being more nimble in turning, they would be better adapted both for ramming and for evading the ram of their adversary. Finally, the conditions of superior speed and agility would favour their use of torpedoes and submarine projectiles; although it was a question whether, for the sake of a much-needed simplification, it would not be better to confine that species of attack to separate vessels specially constructed for that one particular purpose. Even if the utmost advantage she could possess were conceded to the ironclad, viz.—that of being impenetrable by the guns of her opponents—she could not prevail in a contest of three against one, unless by the use of securely-protected artillery she could keep her assailants at bay, and gradually destroy them by her fire if they persisted in their attack. If ironclads were not needed for the purpose of opposing ironclads it was difficult to see for what purpose they were wanted at all. For every other kind of service a numerous fleet of smaller and swifter vessels, unencumbered with armour, would clearly be preferable. To protect our commerce, to guard our extensive seaboard against invading flotillas, to lend naval assistance to our Colonies in case of need, and generally to maintain our supremacy at sea,

we required a far more numerous Navy than

we possessed or could afford to possess unless we vastly reduced our expenditure on indivi-dual ships, and to do this we must dispense

into a compromise with Russia, induced the but the experience of an actual war would remove all question as to its possible utility; but considering the indisputable value of a numerous fleet of swift and powerfully-armed ships, built with a view of obtaining the maximum amount of unarmoured defence. and considering that such vessels, unlike armour-clads, could never grow much out of date, it did seem to be expedient that the chief expenditure of this country should be upon ships of that description. Lightness should be the special aim in the construction of such vessels. Referring to the light unarmoured ships designed by Mr. George Rendell, and lately built in this country for Foreign Powers, the President said it was a very serious question what could be done in the event of a number of such vessels being let loose upon our commerce. At present there was not a single ship in the British Navy carrying an armament competent to engage them, that could overtake them in pursuit, or evade their attack when prudence dictated a retreat. Confidence was often expressed in our mercantile marine being capable of furnishing, on an emergency, a supply of vessels fit to be converted into cruisers; but where were there to be found amongst trading or passenger steamers vessels possessing a speed of 16 knots, with engines and boilers below water-level, and having an under-water deck to save them from sinking when penetrated by projectiles at or below the waterline? From his own experience he knew how difficult it was to adapt mer-cantile vessels to the purposes of war, and how unsatisfactory they were when the best had been made of them. It that the correspondent's presence was im-mediately and imperatively required. After some weeks the desired missive from was alarming to think how unprepared we were to repress the ravages which even a small number of swift marauding vessels, pro-perly constructed and armed for this purpose, could inflict upon the enormous property we had at all times afloat, and how little we could hope to clear the sea of such destructive enemies by cruisers improvised out of ready-made steamers destitute of all the conditions necessary to render them efficient for

such a service. The President then adverted to harbour defence. He pointed out that many of our ironclad forts had already out-lived the stage of artillery progress for which they were adapted. He expressed his opinion as to the best method of rendering large guns effective in shore batteries. He dwelt the value of gun boats, considered as floating gun-carriages, and used in combination with torpedo crast and submarine mines; all of which, he suggested, might be committed to the management of trained naval and engineer volunteers resident on the spot. said it would be a grand development of the Volunteer movement, of which this country was so justly proud, if it were thus to be extended to harbour defence; and he was informed that, so far as the use of submerged torpedoes was concerned, a project of entrusting their employment to a corps of Volunteer Engineers was already under consideration. On the subject of artillery, he described the progress of gun manufacture since the introduction of frifled ordnance, prior to which a gun was simply a tube of cast iron or bronze closed at one end. He also discussed the question what, under the present condition and practice as to the use of that material for artillery purposes. He was then led to speak of a system of construction which had not passed through the experimental stage, but which, from the results it had already given, promised to attain a wide application. He referred to that system in which the coils surrounding the central tube consisted of steel wire, or ribbons of steel, wound spirally upon the tube. A gun constructed upon this principle had already been tried, and had given results which, in relation to its weight, were unexampled except by its 6-inch predecessor. The French were at present engaged in making experimental guns upon the same general principle. He then discussed the subject of breech loading and muzzle loading, and the various forms of rifling. He also described the many changes that had been found necessary in the form and manufacture of powder for heavy ordnance, and the difficulties which still remained to be overcome. As to the mounting of guns in forts and ships, it was certain that machinery could no longer be dispensed with for working the guns, and that engine power must be used to economise labour and avoid exposure of the Breech-loading guns, carriages fitted with all modern appliances, shot and powder lifts, mechanical rammers and torpedo apparatus all combined with steam or hydraulic machinery, or with both, constituted mechanisms requiring to be supervised by officers qualified as engineers, and to be handled by men trained in the use of machinery. W. Armstrong observed that our Navy was at present armed with guns which could not be expected to contend successfully with the best modern guns that could be used against them. Happily, most of the older ships of Foreign Powers were in the same predicament; but all their new vessels, and ome of their older ones, were being armed with artillery which, weight for weight, was far superior in power to that of our Navy. Our service guns had simply been overtaken in that rapid progress of artillery which had

been going on for the last eight or ten years and it might be doubted whether any partial remodelling during that period would have averted the present need of re-armament OSBORNE, TUESDAY, while it would certainly have involved great sacrifice and confusion of ammunition and stores. But a new departure could not longer be delayed. An irresistible demand had arisen for breech-loading guns, and it was imperative to combine, with the introduction of that system, such other modifications of Marchioness of Ely. construction as would realise the increase o ower which we now knew to be attainable. It might, however, be asked, What better prospect of finality there was now than we had ten years ago? As to absolute finality, it would probably never be reached; but the country might take some comfort in the reflection that every stage of progress nar-rowed the field for further development. There was already no substantial room for improvement in the accuracy of guns; and as regarded we were nearly approaching the limit at which severity of recoil and extravagant length of gun would prohibit further advance. We might go on building larger guns almost without limit, though he doubted the policy of so doing; but mere increase of size did not revolutionise system. There seemed, therefore, to be more hope of permanency now than at any former period; but, whether this were so or not, we could not, without danger, remain passive. What, then, should our Government do in regard to the great work of re-arming the Fleet? He took it for granted that all new ships would be armed with the best guns that could be now made, and that the more important of the older

borne on a short visit to her Majesty.

The Marquis of Lorne has joined the com-

mittee of the Empire Club. Earl Granville left Carlton-house-terrace on Tuesday evening for Walmer Castle. The Countess Karolyi arrived at the Austro-Vienna on Tuesday evening.

The Countess of Rosebery and infant son

latter Power to let Merv alone, and that Mr. O'Donovan was intimately acquainted with the secrets of the English Government, had exalted him to the "bad eminence" at which he stood as one of the triumvirate of Merv. He says, "Even as I write I have lying beside me large official documents, written by the Saruk Turkoman tribes inhabiting the upper waters of the Murgab, within the Turkoman frontier, bearing the seals of eight chiefs, and requesting my intercession with a view of having restored to them thirteen asses carried off by my immediate friends. Again there are applications from cutlying tribes and individuals asking me to give them certicates to the effect that they were under British protection, such certificates being supposed to exempt them both from fortuitous Persian taxation and against annexation by the Russians." In the midst of this popular enthusiasm in his behalf, the intelligence reached him that Candahar was to be evacuated, and he "at once perceived that, however admirable such a measure might be in itself, to him it could hardly fail to be exceedingly inconvenient, if not disastrous." He accordingly wrote to the British Minister at Teheran, Mr. Ronald F. Thompson, requesting him to write summoning Mr. O'Do-novan immediately to Teheran or Meshed as if on some pressing business. Summonses of this kind were sent, but the Turkomans were still unwilling to let their important guest depart, and expressed great curiosity to know what the pressing business was which so imperatively required his presence at Teheran.

At length Mr. O'Donovan wrote to
Teheran asking the British Minister to
write direct to the Merv chiefs stating

Teheran, "as imposing-looking a document as one could wish to see," came. It was couched in the strongest language, and asked why Mr. O'Donovan was further detained at Merv after repeated messages had been sent, the council requiring my immediate presence at Meshed. The receipt of this epistle left no further excuse for his detention. "Still there were dissonant voices in the oft-summoned councils. Some very honest chiefs believed they saw in my withdrawal an abandonment of their cause, and acutely enough wanted to know what the very pressing matter could be which required my presence at Meshed. Others, of a more ignoble type, observed that the presents I had made to my colleagues and to the minor chiefs were not in proportion to the dignity of my station. I may here remark that I had already distributed over fifty pounds sterling among them, besides articles of jewellery, field-glasses, revolvers, etc. I saw that as matters stood there was not a moment to be lost in correcting the breach of etiquette with regard to the value of the presents I had made. I had still fifty pounds on hand, and as much more at Meshed. I signified to the Khans that I wished to make them some parting gifts, and general jubilation ensued. It was delicately hinted that the money would be much more acceptable than its value in dresses of honour or other articles."-Meanwhile a characteristic episode occurred:-"After the occupation of Askabad, General Scobeleff, with a considerable cavalry force, pushed on eastward as far as Kaka, which town, of some five thousand inhabitants, lies a long day's ride to the north east of Kelat-i-Nadri. To propitiate the Alewli Turkomans of the district numerous presents had been made, among them a number of Geneva watches with gorgeously decorated dial-plates. The repicients did not appreciate these unknown apparatus, which they took for astrolabes or other astrological instruments, and took the earlist opportunity of exchanging them against their value in coin. They knew I was at Merv, and despatched a body of horsemen carrying the unknown apparatus as a peshkesh or present to me. . . . Immediately on hearing that objects of value were in my possession, my neighbour Baba Khan, chief of the Toktamish or Eastern Division, sent over his cavalry commander or serdar to say that though he had often heard of watches, never yet been gratified by the sight of one of these wonderful instruments. I committed one of the watches to the care of the serdar, a mighty agreeable and very unconscientious rascal; and by him it was conveyed to the Khan. In an hour the serdar returned, saying how pleased the Khan was with the watch; so much so, indeed, that with my permission he intended to keep it as a souvenir

of my presence at Merv." ten days the messengers to Meshed returned bearing with them the money for which Mr. O'Donovan had given them an order, and the presents were distributed. At the same period news had come of the occu-pation of the north bank of the Atterek along its entire length by the Russian troops, and the further demand for the Keshef Rood as the eastern portion of the new frontier, which would give over to Russia districts which the Merv people claim as their territory. Mr. O'Donovan represented to the council at Mery that this frontier question was to be discussed by an international Convention, at which he was the only European who, knowing the actual ground in dispute, could be of any service at the Convention. It was in view of this that he was summoned to Meshed. This argument was convincing, and it was decided that he should be allowed to depart.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yestorday afternoon, attended by Lady Water-park and the Dowager Marchioness of Ely; and her Majesty and the Princess walked and drove this morning, attended by the Dowager

The Prince of Wales, who is on a visit to the Earl of Stamford and Warrington at Bradgate Park, Leicestershire, had a splendid day's sport on Tuesday. The district is of great natural beauty, being one of the finest parts of Charnwood Forest. Shortly after nine o'clock the Prince of Wales and the other guests drove to the ruins of the ancient which was destroyed by fire by the Countess of Stamford in the early part of the last century. The Prince was also shown Queen's Adelaide's oak, under which her Majesty had luncheon when celebrating her fiftieth birthday at Bradgate; and the terrace was pointed out where Lady Jane Grey and Lord Guildford Dudley spent their time previous to their marriage. The guns were as follows: —The Prince of Wales, Lord Stamford, Colonel Kenyon Slaney, Lord Ormathwaite, Sir F. Johnstone, Bart., the Earl of Lathom, Mr. H, Trelawney, Colonel Lloyd, Lord Colville, Mr. De Lisle, Lord Hardwicke, and Lord Newport. The rabbit shooting in the park afforded good sport, and after some pleasant shooting in Blakes Haywood lun-cheon was served in a large marquee. After lunch the adjoining spinneys were shot over, game being abundant.

The Empress Eugénie arrived at Ports-

mouth from Chislehurst on Tuesday afternoon, and at the dockyard was received by General Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and Admira Ryder, commander-in-chief. The Princess Beatrice had crossed the Solent in the Royal yacht Alberta, in which the Empress proceeded in company with the Princess to Os-

Hungarian Embassy, Belgrave-square, from

are both going on favourably.

Lord Northbrook left town on Tuesday night for his country residence, Stratton Park, Winchester.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone left Euston Station at five o'clock on Tuesday afternoon to re-turn to Hawarden, where they intend to remain till about the end of the present month, when the Premier will return to London for the parliamentary session.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE "STANDARD.")

The statement that one of the difficulties n the way of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty—namely, that relative to woollen goods—has been removed, is incorrect. Both as regards this and all other questions matters are exactly where they were ten days ago. Since Sir Charles Dilke's arrival in London no progress of any kind has been made, and no communications on the subject have passed between the French and English Governments. Mr. Crowe remained in Paris that he might receive any fresh proposals which France might possibly offer. As a matter of fact none have been forthcoming. The collapse of the negotiations is therefore complete, and the utmost which can be said is that there is a chance of a temporary renewal of the exist-

ing Treaty.

It has been decided by the military authorities not to embody the Irish Militia during the present year, owing to the disturbed

state of the country.

The Postmaster General has appointed Mr. R. Hunter, solicitor, of the firm of Horne, Hunter, and Birkett, 6, Lincoln's-inn-fields, to be solicitor to the Post Office in place of the late Mr. Horace Watson.

(FROM THE " DAILY NEWS.") A few days ago we stated that attempts were being made to induce the Government to liberate Mr. Parnell. We learn that similar representations have been made on behalf of Mr. Dillon.

At the close of the four weeks ended last Saturday the total amount deposited in the Savings Banks was £80,637,717 11s. 8d., being only a slight growth as compared with the corresponding period last month, when the amount was £80,600,662 0s. 1d. A year ago the total was £77,909,027 is 11d., so that the growth of small savings appears strong so compared. It may be suggested that the Christmas holidays and festivities lately checked the accumulations, but only for a time in that case. Christmas notwithstanding, the investment on account of depositors in the Three per Cents. goes on, for the amount so invested is now £906,514 4s., compared with £848,141 9J. 1d. last month, and £186,092 10s. 8d. a year ago.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE " WORLD.") Early in the coming Session the settlement for the household of Prince Leopold will be introduced, when more than the usual Irish opposition is anticipated. Claremont is to be the residence of the young couple. The place is now in the hands of the decorator and the sanitary engineer, for, like all old houses, the drains need renewing. The work is to be completed by March next.

Sir Charles Dilke is, I hear, about to receive a touch of the irony of Fate. A number of his constituents are getting up a tation to request the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs to oppose and vote against any proposal for a parliamentary grant to Prince Leopold on his marriage. What will Sir Charles answer?

After his performances last week in the Berkely coverts, the Duke of Cambridge ought to speak with some authority on marksmanship. The Duke brought down his full share of the two hundred and odd brace of pheasants which fell in one day to soven guns. His companions were his host, Lord Fitzhardinge, himself no mean performer with the breechloader, Lord Romney, Hon. Major Byng, Captain Fellowes, Colonel Bateson, and Captain Thorston. The Moat covert fully sustained its old reputation for

Notwithstanding the attractions of the chase, London is far from empty. Unwonted sunshine brings a well-dressed crowd to the morning Park; and there have been some lively little dances given by Lady Augustus FitzClarence, the Hon. Mrs. Pasco Glyn, and Mrs. Charles Hammersley.

When last spring Lord Beaconsfield—Bernal Osborne's old friend—was lying ill in

Mayfair, lingering somewhat lengthily be-tween life and death, the bitter old gentleman who died the other day at Bestwood Lodge said, "It's just like him—overdoing it. He has overdone everything."

Bernal Osborne was equally quick at re-taliation as in retort. Some years ago he went down to Oxford with the Persignys and the Marquis d'Azeglio to spend the day with Norman McDonald at one of the colleges. On the return journey the Countess and Bernal Osborne discussed a certain topic so very warmly that the lady seized the latter's hat and threw it out of the window! Thereupon Bernal Osborne grabbed the lady's muff, and sent it after his chapeau with the remark, Now we're quits."

Mr. James Cookson, of Neasham, on dit, has recently inherited another large fortune, amounting to £300,000. He has sold his present batch of yearlings to Mr. Waring, who recently bought Robert the Devil, and contemplates giving up breeding at no distant date, owing to delicate health.

The break-up of Prince Batthyany's estab-lishment at Newmarket will be much felt by the many friends who have had the good fortune to enjoy his hospitality during the race-meetings. His comfortable residence near the railway station, which commands such a cheerful look-out upon the Warren and Bury hills has been revealed by March 1981. and Bury hills, has been purchased by Mr. Alexander Henderson, so well known in theatrical circles, with the intention of converting it into a club. Prince Batthyany, I hear, will occupy one of the new bedrooms at the Jockey Club.

A striking and popular Budget will be pro-bably one of the events of the Session. Mr. Gladstone will have a good surplus at his command, and he will, by skilful financial manœuvring, make it larger. It is likely that another blow will be struck at the landed interest by raising the succession duties to the same level as the legacy duties, and taking a good round sum off the income-tax.

I learn that the Premier has made his

choice, and that the Rev. George Henry Wilkinson, Vicar of St. Peter's, Eatonsquare, chapfain to the Bishop of Truro, and canon of the future Cathedral of Truro, is to be the new Bishop of Newcastle. Perhaps Mr. Wilkinson's chief claim to advancement is to be found in the fact that he enjoyed the rare honour of converting a duchess to the true faith of the Church of England. The change from Eaton-square to Newcastle is very great, but no doubt the appointment will be well received by a large section of the clergy, albeit the Bishop of Durham may not greatly rejoice over it. The last nomination of a "missioner" to a bishopric was made when Mr. Maelagan was sent from Kensington to Lichfield—hardly so success-Kensington to Lichfield—hardly so successful a translation as to warrant repetition of the experiment. Mr. Wilkinson, if not a Ritualist absolutely, is a pronounced High Churchman; and poor Mr. Green in Lancaster Gaol must find additional reason for bewailing his martyrdom when he learns how many of his friends and intimates have how many or his friends and intimates have been promoted to fill vacant stalls and sees.

Since his accession to power, Mr. Gladstone has conferred church dignities upon Mr. Butler, Mr. Knox-Little, Mr. Oakley, and Mr. Baring-Gould. Further, Mr. Malcolm MacColl is understood to have already ordered his shovel-hat and gaiters; while it is certain that Canon Liddon would have been Dean of Westminster had not the anebeen Dean of Westminster had not the ap-pointment been directly opposed by a R-y-I P-rs-n-ge, as Thackeray was wont to write. Mr. Gladstone can hardly be aware of the

MR. O'DONOVAN'S ESCAPE FROM MERV.

vessels would speedily receive the same advantage; but beyond this, so long as ex-

perience of novelties was deficient, it was a

case for cautious procedure. In the mean-

time, no expense should be spared in judi-

cious experiments, seeing that the expense

of experiments was trifling in comparison

with that of mistakes. Above all, the Go-

vernment should pursue such a course as

would bring into full play the abundant engineering resources of this highly mecha-

nical country for increasing the efficiency of

our National Defences.

In another letter to the Daily News on 'Last Days at Merv," Mr. O'Donovan relates the difficulties he had to contend with before being permitted to leave Merv. The belief that the British Government had, by entering

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 10-11, 1882.

KING WILLIAM'S MANIFESTO. The manifesto of Saturday is King William's personal act. As the King's Prime Minister, Prince Bismarck had no choice but to countersign it. Yet, for affixing his signature, he is liable to be impeached by the Prussian Parliament. If a Minister do not agree with a decision of the King as incorporated in an act of Government, or do not choose to accept responsibility for it before the nation, he is free to resiga, that he may not countersign the Royal decree or join in enforcing an equivocal law. If a subordinate official so differ from the policy of the Government, which is the King's policy, that he feels compelled by his conscience to assail it by his influence and vote, his duty equally is to retire from a post he cannot justly oc-While he retains it he is bound, cupy. While he retains it he is bound, his King tells him, to co-operate with the Government, of which he implicitly forms a part, because he is bound to co-operate

with the King, whose bread he eats. Prince Bismark's and his master's theory of the Royal prerogative does not differ essentially from the British. A British Sovereign, theoretically, is as unfettered in the exercise of his Royal powers as a Prussian Sovereign is asserted to be. If the Queen thought a Minister engaged in doubtful enterprises, or a legislative proposal immoral, it would be, in theory, her duty to dismiss the Minister and veto the law. Her irresponsibility to the nation and the responsibility of her Ministers do not, in theory, emancipate her from the personal obligation to consult her individual conscience, or them from responsibility also to her. In practice a clear distinction is acknowledged between the Monarch's opinions as a Monarch and personally. The King of Prussia, being theoretically free in the exercise of the prerogative left to him, arrogates the right to exercise his prerogative freely. Acts of Government, being in form his, he declares are his in fact. Incontrovertible evidence that they are, he informs his subjects, is to be seen in his signature appended to them. Practically, his interpretation of the Prussian Constitution, if carried out, lays a burden both upon him and upon his Ministers which neither will be able to bear. An autocrat has difficulty in reconciling himself to the modifications of policy enjoined by circumstances, rare and infrequent as they may be. No constitutional ruler's conscience or selfrespect could stand the incessant strain

nation in amicable relations. According to the recent manifesto, should a Liberal Administration, as sooner or later it certainly will, succeed that led by Prince Bismarck, the Emperor William must be imagined to have turned Liberal, or to have had his individual will put in chains. Personal dignity exacts from the chief of a constitutional State that he should devise a modus vivendi for his double capacity of man and Sovereign. For statesmen in a country possessed of representative institutions it is an absolute condition of usefulness that both their Sovereign and themselves should interpret the responsibility they owe to the nation as signifying that their service is owed to the nation as well as to the Sovereign. The Emperor-King appears to hold that his Ministers are bound to take the whip from, and are not bound to take counsel with, his people. Prince Bismarck is tasting at this moment the sweets of such a doctrine. The Stuart Kings of England entertained the same notion as the Emperor William of the absence of distinction between the Monarch's personal and official qualities.

of continual shiftings of position required

to preserve his Government and the

They acted not very dissimilarly their attempt to treat their Ministers as exclusively their own servants, and not servants of the nation. When an inferior functionary opposed the King's Government, he was speedily taught that the King personally controlled his Government's policy. If there is little fear that the present enunciation by the Emperor and his Chancellor of the worn-out Stuart hypothesis will be followed by its seventeenth century consequences, it is that neither are the Prussian and German Parliaments led by Pyms and Hampdens, nor is the House of Hohenzollern devoid of political instinct like the House of Stuart. Prince Bismarck may himself discover inconveniences in a theory of prerogative which, though elaborated for the direct behoof of the Prussian Crown, would apply equally to all the other varieties and shades of German Royalty. At some near date, when he or a successor

obsolete traditions of the German nation's incompetence to decide on the management of national business, the obstinate separatism of minor rulers may prove a worse obstruction to German unity than Parliamentary claims to be The motive in any case for setting up such a pretension at the present moment seems singularly inadequate. The Chancellor and his august master have combined to fulminate an assertion of divine right against the Prussian people because the rank and file of German civilians are suspected of having swelled with their votes the gigantic majority against the Chancellor's experiments in Socialism and Protectionism. Prussian

officials have generally been supposed to

be more than sufficiently docide to their Government and despotic to their fellow-

has repented of the endeavours to keep up

popularity of his recent policy when he offers, in Saturday's rescript, to the welldrilled Prussian bureaucracy the alternative of siding with the Government against the nation or being cashiered. He ought to perceive that it is time to come to terms with his countrymen, who cannot help admiring and revering him, when he finds himself reduced to terrorise his own clerks for their votes .- Times.

MR. GLADSTONE'S LEGAL APPOINT-MENTS.

By elevating Sir John Holker, a staunch Conservative, to the vacant position of Lord Justice of Appeal, the Government has set an excellent precedent, which will probably be followed only in rare instances. The established rule in English political life is that Judgeships are part of the loaves and fishes which are distributed. as they fall in, to distinguished and capable lawyers belonging to the party in power; and our present Ministry has not hitherto deviated from this ancient custom with regard to judicial prizes. Now, however, that the lamented decease of Lord Justice Lush has placed another coveted legal post at his disposal, Mr. Gladstone has shown great good sense and much generosity in bestowing it upon one so well able in every way to add lustre to his high dignity as Sir John Holker, the present Conservative member for Preston. Some other names had been mentioned for the post, and as a matter of course the appointment was first of all offered to the law officers of the Crown for the time being. These are Sir Henry James, the Liberal Attorney-General, and Sir Farrer Herschell, Solicitor-General, neither of whom appears willing to exchange the freedom and excitement of Parliamentary conflict for the safe repose of the Judicial Bench. Since the present Ministry came into office, there has been a constant succession of deaths or resignations of distinguished Judges. A perfect plethora of legal appointments has consequently fallen into Mr. Gladstone's hands, and the Bench has been in a state of change, which, happening coincidently with the new arrangements necessitated by the amended Judicature Acts, has given a slightly kaleidoscopic character to our Courts of Justice. A solicitor or a barrister who had gone abroad three years ago, and who returned to London now, would hardly find one of our Courts either of Equity or Common Law in which extensive changes of judicial "personnel" had not taken place. Among those whom death has removed from us can be mentioned the late Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir Alexander Cockburn, whose office is now filled by Lord Coleridge; Lord Justice Thesiger, cut off in compara-tive youth; Chief Baron Kelly, and Lords Justices James and Lush. Many retirements have also occurred, such as those of Vice-Chancellor Malins, of Lord Justice Bramwell, and others. This havoc among the occupants of the Bench is something unprecedented, occurring as it did within a very short space of time; honoured names, noted individualities have gone down in the rush, and we are in presence of a new Bench, with a few survivors of old times. That the reputation of the collective "Judiciary" has not suffered must be acknowledged to be a solid tribute to the Judges selected, and also indicates the inexhaustible material for judicial appointments existing in our chief forensic champions, the men who go down to the law courts and draw truth up from its well every day of the sittings of the High Court. No doubt it requires peculiar qualities to make a good Appeal Court Judge. The tribunal is a somewhat anomalous one, inasmuch as it is only intermediate, and its decisions can be reviewed again by the House of Lords. At the time of the passing of the Judicature Acts it was intended that the Appeal Court should be the final tribunal for the whole realm; but custom conquered, and the House of Lords retained its ancient privilege of being the highest Court of Justice, beyond which there lies no appeal, except to the Crown itself. has been found in practice, how-ever, that the Court of Appeal, despite its intermediate character, has a great deal of work to do, and performs a most useful function. For instance, litigants dissatisfied with the ruling of the Judge, or the finding of a jury, take their cases to this Court for review, but it hardly ever happens that they go beyond, and hammer at the august portals of the House of Great respect is naturally and properly felt for a tribunal which numbers among its members such intellects as those of Sir George Jessel, Lords Justices Brett, Cotton, and Baggallay, and occasionally a couple of present or past Lord Chancellors. It is to this dignified body that Sir John Holker is now transferred, without the preliminary step of a puisne Judgeship, and his appointment happily shows that political passions do not in this country run so deplorably high as to blind statesmen to the legitimate claims of able men among their political adversaries .- Daily

THE AMENITIES OF COOMASSIE. It appears that the dreadful report of a massacre of two hundred young girls at Coomassie was too true. They were collected by raiding amongst the tribes bordering on Ashanti, for the object of mixing their blood with the mortar used in building a new palace for the King.

After one has surmounted one's natural horror, curious reflections arise:-Is there any part of the world, saving the Chinese Empire, where a kindred superstition has not made its victims? and the Chinese Empire is excepted rather because we know so little of its antiquity than because we can credit that an universal practice was not followed there. There are few buildings in Europe dating from the earlier Middle Age which have not a legend of the sort attached to them; and a legend prevalent among all races and conditions, from the slave to the Anglo-Teuton, from the Kremlin to London Angio-Teuton, from the Kremin to London Bridge, most certainly records a general instinct of humanity in its younger and darker stage. This class of legend is usually divided into two branches, of which each has examples innumerable. We have the simpler form in cases exactly similar to this Ashanti reproduction—the burial of a young girl alive, or of her slaughtered body in the foundations of cathedral, or church, or bridge. The other form is more poetle. Driven to despair by sink ings of the earth, or crumbling of the upper structure, the master-mason vows-some-times to the Devil, sometimes to a power un-named—that he will sacrifice his dearest treasure if this evil influence be stopped. It is invariably a woman or a girl—his wife, his betrothed, or his daughter. The masons build her up living in the wall, and thus destroy the spell. Of the scores of myths subjects. Prince Bismarck makes too

candid a confession of the irretrievable un-popularity of his recent policy when he beautiful, perhaps, is that of the famous beautiful, perhaps, is that of the lamous monastery of Argis, in Wallachia. If the two variations of the story be considered thoughtfully, it is evident that they are based, in effect, on the same idea. To ensure in effect, on the same idea. To ensure stability in the great work, evil fortune must be propitiated by a sacrifice of transcendent value. The dearest and most beautiful thing on earth is woman. When the theme is general, so to speak; when the story has no individual hero, girls are made victims without identification; when the story is personal the wife or child of the hero is introduced Most emphatically, such practices cannot be allowed in this age of the world, if we have power to stop them. But we may think less bitterly of negro superstition when we remember that our own forefathers used the same horrid rites.—Fvening Standard.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IN

GERMANY. The Berlin correspondent of the Standard telegraphed on Tuesday night:-The Imperial Decree still remains the chief, almost the only, topic of public and private discussion. The Exchange, which is almost always favourably affected by Conser-vative measures, has been unable either yesterday or to-day to recover from the excitement and depression produced by the proclamation. Private criticisms naturally differ, often very widely, from the utterances of the Under pressure of the rigorous Press Law the newspapers do not dare to reproduce or depict either the general opinion at home or remarks from abroad. Enough, however, remains to show that, according to the views of the Berlin, the German, and the Foreign Press, Prussia and all Germany now have to pass through a very grave crisis. Not even all the Conservative organs express satisfac tion with the Imperial declaration. The Post, true to its own judgment upon Herr von Puttkammer's statements with regard to officials, restricts itself to finding the origin of the conflict in the fact that Herr Bennigsen once made his entrance into the Ministry dependent on the entrance of some partisans. Only the extreme Conservative journals fully approve the Preclamation.

The really Liberal Press of all shades of

opinion comments rather freely on the declaration, claiming a right to do so because a responsible Minister, Prince Bismarck, countersigned it. The Cologne Gazette says that "nobody attempts to touch or to doubt the Monarchical Constitution of the country. Why, then, do things always look as if such doubts were really entertained?"

The Weser Zeitung wonders that the Pro-clamation, being an Imperial utterance, is countersigned, since it is thereby laid open to public discussion. It believes that the Crown has had bad advice if it has been urged to use means for securing Election results other than such as express the con-viction of the population. The Crown by doing this will be running into the danger of self-deception as to the people's real views. The left wing of the Progressists—that is, the partisans of Herr Eugene Richter—ask for a law of incompatibility, whereas Herr Hanel's followers demand a law of Ministerial responsibility which has been already promised

by the Constitution, but never yet carried out.
The Vossische Zeitung states the differences between the Prussian and the German Constitutions. The Governmental acts of the Prussian King may be admissible, but not so the acts of the German Emperor or Prussian King, as regards the Empire. How, it asks, will Prince Bismarck, who countersigned the Declaration, answer for not having called the King's attention to such an anomaly, nor dissuaded him from acting as he has done? The Imperial Chancellor ought absolutely to have refused his counter signature, even though as Prussian Premier he might have believed it possible to undertake the responsibility: but the Prussian Premier ought not to have allowed the Empire to be controlled by Prussia. Nobody will gainsay that this want of perception is highly regrettable.

SIR W. ARMSTRONG ON NATIONAL DEFENCE.

Sir W. G. Armstrong, C.B., F.R.S., delivered, on Tuesday evening, his inaugural address as President of the Institute of Civil Engineers. After tracing in its various phases the contest between gun and armour, he said it had placed our naval authorities under extreme difficulty in deciding upon questions of ships and armament. Not only did we see that armour was unavailing against torpedo attack and ramming, but we were justified in concluding that every attempt to increase resistance to projectiles would be quickly followed by a corresponding increase in the power of artillery. Our early in the power of artillery. Our early ironclads, like the Warrior, were plated all over with armour 4% inches thick—a thickness which could now be pierced with field-pieces. To resist the most powerful guns now afloat, armour of at least two feet in thickness was required; and in order to reconcile the constantly increasing thickness with the weight which the ship was capable of carrying, it had been necessary to restrict the area of armoured surface to ever-narrowing limits, leaving a large portion of the ship without protection. In those magnificent and tremendous vessels which the Italians were now building the armour would be withdrawn from every part except the battery, where guns of 100 tons would be placed, and where the armour would be confined to a narrow belt of great thickness. Everything of importance that projectiles could destroy would be kept below water level, and, so far as artillery fire was concerned, the ships would be se-cured against sinking by means of an underwater deck and ample division into compartments. Armour, therefore, seemed gradually contracting to the vanishing point; but until it actually disappeared, it was probable that no better application of it could be made than had been decided upon by the naval authorities of Italy for the great ships they were now constructing. The President proceeded to say that for the cost of one ironclad we could have three unarmoured ships of far higher speed, and carry-ing collectively three armaments, each equal to that of the armoured vessel. Being smaller, they would be more difficult to hit. Being swifter, they could choose their positions and be free to attack or retreat at pleasure. Being more nimble in turning, they would be better adapted both for ramming and for evading the ram of their adversary. Finally, the conditions of superior speed and agility would favour their use of torpedoes and sub-marine projectiles; although it was a question whether, for the sake of a much-needed simplification, it would not be better to confine that species of attack to separate vessels specially constructed for that one particular pur-Even if the utmost advantage she could possess were conceded to the ironclad, viz.—that of being impenetrable by the guns of her opponents—she could not prevail in a contest of three against one, unless by the use of securely-protected artillery she could keep her assailants at bay, and gradually destroy them by her fire if they persisted in their attack. If ironclads were not needed for the purpose of opposing ironclads it was difficult to see for what purpose they were wanted at all. For every other kind of service a numerous fleet of smaller and swifter vessels, unencumbered with armour, would clearly be preferable. To protect our commerce, to guard our extensive seaboard against invading flotillas, to lend naval assistance to our Colonies in case of need, and generally to maintain our supremacy at sea, we required a far more numerous Navy than we possessed or could afford to possess unless we vastly reduced our expenditure on indivi-dual ships, and to do this we must dispense

nations continued to use it, because nothing but the experience of an actual war would remove all question as to its possible utility; but considering the indisputable value of a numerous fleet of swift and powerfully-armed ships, built with a view of obtaining the maximum amount of unarmoured defence, and considering that such vessels, unlike armour-clads, could never grow much out of date, it did seem to be expedient that the chief expenditure of this country should be upon ships of that description. Lightness should be the special aim in the construction of such vessels. Referring to the light unarmoured ships designed by Mr. George Rendell, and lately built in this country for Foreign Powers, the President said it was a very serious question what could be done in the event of a number of such vessels being let loose upon our commerce. At present there was not a single ship in the British Navy carrying an armament competent to engage them, that could overtake them in pursuit, or evade their attack when prudence dictated a retreat. Confidence was often expressed in our mercantile marine being capable of furnishing, on an emergency, a supply of vessels fit to be converted into cruisers; but where were there to be found amongst trading or passenger steamers vessels possessing a speed of 16 knots, with engines and boilers below water-level, and having an under-water deck to save them from sinking when pene-trated by projectiles at or below the water-line? From his own experience hé knew how difficult it was to adapt merhow difficult it was to adapt mer-cantile vessels to the purposes of war, and how unsatisfactory they were when the best had been made of them. It was alarming to think how unprepared we were to repress the ravages which even a small number of swift marauding vessels, properly constructed and armed for this purpose could inflict upon the enormous property we had at all times affoat, and how little we could hope to clear the sea of such destructive enemies by cruisers improvised out of ready-made steamers destitute of all the conditions necessary to render them efficient for such a service. The President then adverted to harbour defence. He pointed out that many of our ironclad forts had already outlived the stage of artillery progress for which they were adapted. He expressed his opinion as to the best method of rendering large guns effective in shore batteries. He dwelt upon the value of gun boats, considered as floating gun-carriages, and used in combination with torpedo craft and submarine miges; all of which, he suggested, might be committed to the management of trained naval and engineer volunteers resident on the spot. said it would be a grand development of the volunteer movement, of which this country was so justly proud, if it were thus to be extended to harbour defence; and he was informed that, so far as the use of submerged torpedoes was concerned, a project of entrusting their employment to a corps of Volunteer ngineers was already under consideration.

On the subject of artillery, he described the progress of gun manufacture since the inroduction of rifled ordnance, prior to which a gun was simply a tube of cast iron or bro nze closed at one end. He also discussed the question what, under the present condition and prospects of steel manufacture, should be our practice as to the use of that material for artillery purposes. He was then led to speak of a system of construction which had not passed through the experimental stage, but which, from the results it had already given, promised to attain a wide application. He referred to that system in which the coils surrounding the central tube consisted of steel wire, or ribbons of steel, wound spirally upon the tube. A gun constructed upon this principle had already been tried, and had given results which, in relation to its weight, were unexampled except by its 6-inch predecessor. The French were at present engaged in making experimental guns upon the same general principle. He then discussed the subject of breech loading and muzzle loading, and the various forms of rifling. He also described the many changes that had been found necessary in the form and manufacture of powder for heavy ordnance, and the difficulties which still remained to be overcome. As to the mounting of guns in forts and ships, it was certain that machinery could no longer be dispensed with for working the guns, and that engine power must be used to economise labour and avoid exposure of the men. Breech-loading guns, carriages fitted with all modern appliances, shot and powder lifts, mechanical rammers and torpedo apparatus, all combined with steam or hydraulic

machinery, or with both, constituted mechanisms requiring to be supervised by officers qualified as engineers, and to be handled by men trained in the use of machinery. Sir W. Armstrong observed that our Navy was at present armed with guns which could be expected to contend successfully with the best modern guns that could be used against them. Happily, most of the older ships of Foreign Powers were in the same predicament; but all their new vessels, and some of their older ones, were being armed with artillery which, weight for weight, was far superior in power to that of our Navy. Our service guns had simply been overtaken in that rapid progress of artillery which had been going on for the last eight or ten years; and it might be doubted whether any partial remodelling during that period would have averted the present need of re-armament; while it would certainly have involved grea sacrifice and confusion of ammunition and stores. But a new departure could not longer delayed. An irresistible demand had arisen for breech-loading guns, and it was imperative to combine, with the introduction of that system, such other modifications of construction as would realise the increase of power which we now knew to be attainable. It might, however, be asked, What better prospect of finality there was now than we had ten years ago? As to absolute finality, it would probably never be reached; but the country might take some comfort in the reflection that every stage of progress nar-rowed the field for further develop-

There was already no substantial ment. room for improvement in the accuracy of guns; and as regarded power, we were nearly approaching the limit at which severity of recoil and extravagant length of gun would prohibit further advance. We might go on building larger guns almost without limit, though he doubted the policy of so doing; but mere increase of size did not revolutionise system. There seemed, therefore, to be more hope of permanency now than at any former period; but, whether this were so or not, we could not, without danger, remain passive. What, then, should our Government do in regard to the great work of re-arming the Fleet? He took it for granted that all new ships would be arred with the best guns that could be now made, and that the more important of the older vessels would speedily receive the same advantage; but beyond this, so long as ex-perience of novelties was deficient, it was a case for cautious procedure. In the meantime, no expense should be spared in judicious experiments, seeing that the expense of experiments was trifling in comparison

EMIGRATION TO BORNEO.—The London and China Telegraph states:—Sir Walter Medhurst, formerly her Majesty's Consul-General at Shanghai, has been deputed by the British North Borneo Company to proceed to Borneo and China, with the view of organising the Chinese Labour Department for emigration to Borneo. Sir Walter Medhurat will leave by the mail of the 27th inst., via Brindisi. with armour. It might, perhaps, be rash entirely to abandon armour so long as other

with that of mistakes. Above all, the Go-

vernment should pursue such a course as

would bring into full play the abundant engineering resources of this highly mecha-

nical country for increasing the efficiency of our National Defences.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

DISCOVERY OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION. A Dublin correspondent wrote on Tuesday The police in Cork have received information of the concealment of a large quantity of arms and ammunition about the city. A watch is being kept on the places in order to see if any attempt will be made to remove them. The seizure this morning is but the beginning of a more extensive capture, and it is believed that many arrests will follow. The police circular offering rewards has had the desired effect, and the authorities are now in the fullest possession of the extent of the illegal practices which have been carried on under the guise of the Land League. The discovery referred to arose under the following circumstances: — During the past month the Cork police in plain clothes have been keeping careful watch in certain quar-ters of the city, owing to information respect-ing the concealment of ammunition and arms. They made several fruitless searches, and amongst these was that of last Saturday night near North Monastery. Here in a garden they turned up a considerable quantity of clay, and though their search was not rewarded by any discovery, they could dis-tinctly trace where cases had been recently buried. The information upon which they acted last night, however, enabled them to make a very important seizure. On Monday night a number of detectives commenced watch ing in the neighbourhoods of Peacock and Wrixon's lanes, but it was not until one this morning that Sub-Inspector Potter and thirty policemen, taking with them pickaxes, crow bars, and excavating implements, repaired to the locality, and went direct to an apparently hermetically sealed cave under the roadway of Wrixon's-lane, and built of solid masonry. It took the exploring party nearly three hours to effect an entrance, and it was not until four o'clock this morning that their efforts succeeded. The cave is about twelve feet long and six feet wide, and here was dis-covered from thirty to fifty Snider rifles, similar in pattern to those supplied to the similar in pattern to those supplies. The police, save that the barrels are longer. The rifles are in excellent condition. Besides them was found upwards of nine hundred rounds of ball cartridge, some three hundred dynamite cartridges varying in length from one to three inches, and about thirty ammunition pouches filled with powder, a good deal of which was damp. The ball cartridges were stowed away in kegs, and the dynamite cartridges were wrapped in copies of a Cork paper of last January's date. A month or two before that a large quantity of dynamite was stolen from Messrs. Cooke's magazine at Kilcully, near the city, and the police, believing those now discovered to be some of the stolen property, took a few of the cartridges to Messrs. Cooke, who could not, however, say more than they were similar in character to those stolen from their magazine.

The Dublin Gazette contains the usual return of the agrarian outrages reported to the Inspector General of the Royal Irish constabulary in Ireland during the month of December. The gross total is 574, as compared with 520 in the month of November, and 490 in October. The largest number of outrages is again reported from the province of Munster, the total being 262, against 237 in the pre-vious month. Leinster returns 137, against 129 in November; Connaught 110, against the same number in the preceding month and Ulster 65, against 44. The return is made up as follows—Murder, 4; firing at the person, 10; assaulting the police, 16; assaults endangering life, 2; incendiary fires, 38; burglaries and robberies, 2; taking and holding forcible possession, 6; killing, cutting, or maining cattle, 12; levying contributions, demanding or robbery of arms, 7; riot, 1; administering unlawful oaths, 5; intimidation by threatening notices, etc., 403; attacking houses, 4; injury to person, 29; firing into dwellings, 30; injury to or attempts to injure

railway trains or highways, 3.

A proclamation declares the King's County to be in a state of disturbance, and to require an additional establishment of police. The baronies of Boylagh and Banagh, and certain parishes in the barony of Kilmacrenan, in the county Donegal, are declared to be a prescribed district under the Act for the Better Protection of Person and Property in Ireland. Certain parishes in the county of Cavan are also prescribed under the Act.

a meeting of the Dublin Corporation held on Tuesday in Committee, it was resolved to recommend the Council, as the Lord Lieutenant had refused to grant permission to Messrs. Parnell and Dillon to come out of prison for the purpose of signing the roll of honorary freemen in the City Hall, to apply to his Excellency for liberty to go into Kilmainham Gaol to have the ceremony gone

The usual weekly meeting of the Ladies' Land League was held at their offices, Upper Sackville-street on Tuesday. Reporters representing newspapers antagonistic to the League were refused admission. Two Detectives were stationed near the entrance. The Ladies' Land League has received this week £428 for the imprisoned suspects and their families, and £99 for the general fund.

PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS IN RUSSIA.

A TERRIBLE INDICTMENT. An account of the events of 1881, with

regard to the persecution of Jews in Russia, is furnished to the Times by a correspond-

"It is time that the English public should

ent, who says :--

become aware of the character and extent of the persecutions which the Jews of Russia have undergone during the past year. Warsaw riots have come merely as the last term (as yet) of a series of similar outbreaks which have ravaged the South and West of Russia to an extent of which people outside that country have not the faintest conception. The news which has crossed the borders has been of the most meagre description, chiefly in the form of telegrams announcing tha anti-Jewish riots had occurred in such and such a place. Coming at various intervals, they have altogether failed to strike the imagination, and it is due solely to this cause that the public of England, so ready to undertake the cause of suffering humanity, has not given vigorous expressions to its feelings of abhorrence. During the past eight months a track of country, equal in area to the British isles and France combined, stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea, has been the scene of horrors that have hitherto only been perpetrated in mediæval days during times of war. Men ruthlessly murdered, tender infants dashed to death or roasted alive in their own homes, married women the prey of a brutal lust that has often caused their death, and young girls violated in the sight of their relatives by soldiers who should have been the guardians of their honour—these have been the deeds with which the population of Southern Russia has been stained since last April. In the face of these horrors loss of

property is of little moment, yet they have been accompanied by the razing of whole streets inhabited by Jews, by the systematic streets inhabited by Jews, by the systematic firing of the Jewish quarters of towns in Western Russia, and by the pillage of all the property on which thousands of Jewish families were dependent for existence. In addition to all this, many Russian towns have heartlessly soized the occasion to expel from their limits growds of Jews, who have been left by this inhuman and deliberate mea-

sure homeless amid masses infuriated against them. And during these scenes of carnage and pillage the local authorities have stood by with folded arms, doing little or nothing to prevent their occurrence and recurrence, and allowing the ignorant peasantry to remain up to this day under the impression that a ukase existed ordering the property of the Jews to be handed over to their fellow-

Russians. So far from publicly expressing reprobation of these outrages, the Minister has issued a rescript clearly betraying that the Russian authorities fully share the prejudice of the mob, and contemplate adding to the burdens and inequalities which have been the direct cause of the embittered feeling that has led to these disorders. After giving details of the outrages committed at Kieff, Elizabethgrad, Saratory, and elsewhere, the correspondent concludes the recital (which is to be continued) by stating that, although the to be continued) by stating that, although the occurrences mentioned are no doubt the most occurrences mentioned are no doubt the most important, they are far from including all the similar events that have occurred during the past year. They have been selected from a list of over 160 towns and villages in which cases of riot, rapine, murder, and spoliation have been known to occur during the last nine months of 1881. Out of these information was collected from about 45 towns and tion was collected from about 45 towns and villages in Southern Russia. In these alone villages in Southern Russia. In these alone are reported 23 murders of men, women, and children, 17 deaths caused by violation, and no fewer than 225 cases of outrages on Jewesses. Such have been the horrors that throughout the past year have assailed the 3,000,000 Israelites who inhabit Russia. Nor

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE "STANDARD.")

is there any indication that the atrocities will

cease during the present year unless the Russian Government will intervene in the

sacred cause of civilisation and humanity.

The statement that one of the difficulties in the way of the Anglo-French Commercial Treaty—namely, that relative to woollen goods—has been removed, is incorrect. Both as regards this and all other questions matters are exactly where they were ten days ago. Since Sir Charles Dilke's arrival in London no progress of any kind has been made, and no progress of any kind has been made, and no communications on the subject have passed between the French and English Governments.

Mr. Crowe remained in Paris that he might receive any fresh proposals which France might possibly offer. As a matter of fact none have been forthcoming. The collapse of the negotiations is therefore complete, and the utmost which can be said is that there is a charge of a temperature of a charge of a cha a chance of a temporary renewal of the exist-

ing Treaty.

It has been decided by the military authorities not to embody the Irish Militia during the present year, owing to the disturbed

state of the country.

The Postmaster General has appointed Mr. R. Hunter, solicitor, of the firm of Horne, Hunter, and Birkett, 6. Lincoln's-inn-fields, to be solicitor to the Post Office in place of the late Mr. Horace Watson.

(FROM THE " DAILY NEWS.") A few days ago we stated that attempts were being made to induce the Government to liberate Mr. Parnell. We learn that similar representations have been made on behalf of

Mr. Dillon.

At the close of the four weeks ended last Saturday the total amount deposited in the Savings Banks was £80,637,717 11s. 8d., being only a slight growth as compared with the corresponding period last month, when the amount was £80,600,662 0s. id. A year ago the total was £77,909,027 1s. 11d., so that the growth of small savings appears strong so compared. It may be suggested that the Christmas holidays and festivities lately checked the accumulations, but only for a time in that case. Christmas notwithfor a time in that case. Christmas notwithstanding, the investment on account of de-positors in the Three per Cents. goes on, for the amount so invested is now £906,514 4s., and £186,092 10s. 8d. a year ago.

LONDON GOSSIP. (FROM THE " WORLD.")

Early in the coming Session the settlement for the household of Prince Leopold will be introduced, when more than the usual Irish opposition is anticipated. Claremont is to be the residence of the young course. The be the residence of the young couple. The place is now in the hands of the decorator and the sanitary engineer, for, like all old

houses, the drains need renewing. The work is to be completed by March next.

Sir Charles Dilke is, I hear, about to receive a touch of the irony of Fate. A number of his constituents are getting up a deputation to request the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs to oppose and vote against any proposal for a parliamentary grant to Prince Leopold on his marriage. What will

Sir Charles answer?

After his performances last week in the Berkely coverts, the Duke of Cambridge ought to speak with some authority on marksmanship. The Duke brought down his full share of the two hundred and odd brace of pheasants which fell in one day to seven guns. His companions were his host, Lord Fitzhardinge, himself no mean perormer with the breechloader, Lord Romney, Hon. Major Byng, Captain Fellowes, Colonel Bateson, and Captain Thorston. The Moat covert fully sustained its old reputation for

Notwithstanding the attractions of the chase, London is far from empty. Unwonted sunshine brings a well-dressed crowd to the morning Park; and there have been some lively little dances given by Lady Augustus FitzClarence, the Hon. Mrs. Pasco Glyn, and Mrs. Charles Hammersley.

When last spring Lord Beaconsfield—Bernal Osborne's old friend—was lying ill ham Mayfairs lingering, somewhat leagthile ham

Mayfair, lingering somewhat lengthily be-tween life and death, the bitter old gentleman who died the other day at Bestwood Lodge said, "It's just like him-overdoing it. has overdone everything."

nas overdone everything.

Bernal Osborne was equally quick at retaliation as in retort. Some years ago he went down to Oxford with the Persignys and the Marquis d'Azeglio to spend the day with Norman McDonald at one of the colleges. On the return journey the Countess and Bernal Osborne discussed a certain topic so very warmly that the lady seized the latter's hat and threw it out of the window! Thereupon Bernal Osborne grabbed the lady's muff, and sent it after his chapeau with the remark, Now we're quits."

Mr. James Cookson, of Neasham, on dit. has recently inherited another large fortune, amounting to £300,000. He has sold his present batch of yearlings to Mr. Waring, who recently bought Robert the Devil, and contemplates giving up breeding at no distant date, owing to delicate health.

date, owing to delicate health.

The break-up of Prince Batthyany's establishment at Newmarket will be much felt by the many friends who have had the good fortune to enjoy his hospitality during the race-meetings. His comfortable residence near the railway station, which commands such a cheerful look-out upon the Warren and Bury hills, has been purchased by Mr. Alexander Henderson, so well known in theatrical circles, with the intention of con-verting it into a club. Prince Batthyany, I hear, will occupy one of the new bedrooms at

A striking and popular Budget will be pro-bably one of the events of the Session Mr. Gladstone will have a good surplus at his command, and he will, by skilful financial manœuvring, make it larger. It is likely that another blow will be struck at the landed that another blow will be struck at the landed interest by raising the succession duties to the same level as the legacy duties, and taking a good round sum off the income-tax.

I learn that the Premier has made his

choice, and that the Rev. George Henry Wilkinson, Vicar of St. Peter's, Eaton-square, chaplain to the Bishop of Truro, and canon of the future Cathedral of Truro, is to be the new Bishop of Newcastle. Perhaps Mr. Wilkinson's chief claim to advancement is to be found in the fact that he enjoyed the rare honour of converting a duchess to the true faith of the Church of England. The change from Eaton-square to Newcastle is very great, but no doubt the appointment

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NOTICE.

A four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 11-12, 1882. THE PORTE AND ITS CREDITORS. Mr. Bourke's financial mission to Constantinople excited, during the four months it lasted, an abnormal amount of interest, due partly to the vast number of creditors of the insolvent State, and partly to the notoriety of the debtor. Never before had such a default been witnessed, one involving so much loss and suffering to individuals and so swiftly followed by political results of momentous importance for, if the repudiation of 1875 did not bring on the Eastern Question in the aggravated form it assumed, it added another ingredient to the elements of bitterness which left the Ottoman Empire with scarcely a friend in face of the enemies that clamoured for its dismemberment. The Turkish bondholders were dispersed all over Europe, and abounded in the great capitals; and the first feeling of resentment at what they deemed to be a gratuitous robbery of their rightful dues was so keen as to blind them of the serious consequences to their own prospects likely to arise from the further impoverishment of their debtor. A wasteful war and territorial mutilation followed, seriously diminishing the bankrupt estate and transferring part of the property to preferential claimants, who, while they took much from the available assets, added a good deal to the already enormous debt. It was only after the work of dismemberment had been completed, it was seen that and when the Empire had obtained an interval of comparative security and rest, that the creditors bethought themselves of looking into the condition of what survived of the magnificent domain on which they held so many mortgages, and of obtaining some return for what was due to them. Then came Mr. Bourke's delegation to the task which he has just completed, and an explanatory narrative of which he has now To the creditors, of course, the points of interest are three in number: the nature and value of the property on which they have claims, the possible com-

position to be had, and the security, if any, for the payment of even the smallest composition. What the estate now is Mr. Bourke tells them by the aid of figures which need no embellishment to become of historical value. Before the war the area of territory in European Turkey was 140,000 square miles; it is now 58,000 miles, 82,000 miles having been surrendered to Bulgaria, Roumelia, Austria, Servia, Roumania, Montenegro, and Greece, besides Cyprus and 5,700 square miles in Armenia. The population of the same territory has dwindled from about eleven millions in 1875 to six millions and a half in 1881; and the total revenues of the Empire, which in 1875 amounted to £17,250,000, are estimated at not more than £12,500,000 now; the sum permanently lost to the Empire being thus, in round numbers, \$4,750,000. Bearing in mind that the service of all the loans contracted by the Turkey that was— the Turkey of Sultans Abdul Medjid

and Abdul Aziz-would, on the terms of the original contracts, require£13,000,000 sterling, it results that, if the whole revenue of the Ottoman Empire were devoted to that purpose and no other, it would fall short of the sum requisite by about £500,000 sterling. Clearly, therefore, the case was one for an equitable composition. There was, however, another reason why insistence upon the letter of the original bond was impossible, and that was that the revenues pledged had in several cases either ceased to exist or had been transferred with the territory and the population on which they were levied to other Powers. The debt goes with the territory surrendered as a condition of peace, and Turkey losing the one was, by the express stipulations of the Berlin Treaty, relieved also from the other. Thus Mr. Bourke, when he went to Constantinople, had not only to examine what he could obtain for the bondholders, but had to begin by reconstructing the debt itself. The capital amount had to be largely reduced first, owing to the ascertained inability of the insolvent State to pay, and, next, because a proportion had to be assumed by other States aggrandised at Turkey's expense. How and to what extent this was done the public has long since been informed; but we may repeat that, while the nominal amount of the original Ottoman debt, including six years' arrears of interest, was a little over £250,000,000. it has been cut down by agreement to £106,000,000; while an approximate estimate of the total to be assumed by the detached provinces brings out a further sum of £25,000,000. The latter, we must

add, is matter of conjecture merely. Long

negotiations, which are not yet even com-

menced, will be requisite before such

States as Servia and Greece will pay a

shilling more than whatever either force

or the remonstrances of civilised Europe

will compel them to pay; and with

obvious prudence Mr. Bourke has not in-

troduced these into his calculations, or

trusted to such doubtful sources for any

part of the composition he has procured

for the bondholders. That was a matter

of careful arrangement, requiring most

delicate handling. Turkey, exhausted by the war, and living from hand to mouth en

small temporary loans, borrowed at usurious rates of interest, had no free

revenue to devote to payment of her

funded debt. The local bankers, however,

who had lent her several millions ster-

ling to keep the State machine from going

to pieces, held certain securities of a value

exceeding their claims. This excess was

made over by the Porte to the bondholders,

and it supplied Mr. Bourke with the

nucleus around which to accumulate

further assignments for the benefit of his

clients. How effectually he laboured, by

cutting down privileged claims in one

direction and raking in additional sources

of revenue for another, will be seen by the

simple fact that a surplus arising from the

pledged receipts averaging only £150,000

a year has under his hands expanded to

one of £1,270,000—sufficient to pay 1 per

cent. interest on the reduced total of

the debt, and leaving something for a the "pretensions" which are being re-

sinking fund to clear off the principal by degrees. No mere engagement by the Turkish Government, however, would reconcile bondholders to these terms. The Porte is not in high repute for punctuality and business habits or for good admini-stration; and there would have been a fear that any surplus would be dissipated by carelessness or malversation, or would sink and be lost to sight in the Serbonian bog of Stamboul corruption. Fortunately there is no such fear in the present instance. The Sultan, it is thought, encouraged if he did not invite Mr. Bourke's labours, because he dreaded the appointment of an International Commission at the mandate of the Great Powers. Whether that be so or not, he has only escaped a compulsorily-imposed Financial Commission by accepting voluntarily one having less extended powers and not infringing directly his prerogative. Under the stress of hard necessity he and his Ministers had conceded to the local bankers the right to collect and administer certain items of revenue known as the indirect contributions-that is, the taxes on tobacco, salt, stamps, spirits, fish, and silk; and this privilege of collection and control has been by the arrangements completed through Mr. Bourke, transferred from the bankers, for a considerato a Council composed of bondholders' representatives. This Council is to have "the direct collection and custody" of the ceded revenues, receiving the taxes from the taxpayer through its own officers, over whom it will have full control, and no part of the sums thus paid will pass through the hands of the local officials or be in any way subject to Government interference. It is inappropriate to suggest that these precautions may be of no avail, because, as a matter of fact, they have sufficed during the last two years when the indirect contributions were in the hands of the bankers to whom they were pledged; and a Council, elected by the various bondholders in each country, and composed of men of high character and independent position, cannot possibly be less secure of its privileges than half a dozen local capitalists, anxious as a rule not to quarrel with the Government by whose patronage they profit. Under the administration of these bankers, the pledged revenues have steadily increased in amount, and they may be expected to go on increasing. As guarantee, then, that the £1,276,000 he has obtained for his clients is the minimum on which they may rely with reasonable confidence, Mr. Bourke presents them with a power of control which can only be defective by their own neglect to utilise the authority handed to them .-Daily Telegraph.

EFFECT OF THE ANGLO-FRENCH NOTE.

The Egyptian situation is clearer at one point, although as dark as ever at another. We are now able to judge pretty accurately of the effect which the Anglo-French Note is producing upon the other European Powers. There was never much doubt, of course, as to the feeling with which they would regard this bold assumption of exclusive control over Egypt on the part of England and France: but though there was only one way in which they were likely to regard it, there were two ways in which it was open to them to receive it. They might have lodged an immediate and formal protest against the pretensions of the Note, and have warned the Powers issuing it that, in the event of complications arising in Egypt, their claim to exclude all interference but their own would not be admitted by their neighbours. Or, on the other hand, they might content themselves with letting this resolve of theirs be unofficially known in some of the many ways in which such information can be conveyed, while officially taking no notice whatever of the Anglo-French action. It now seems probable that they propose to adopt the latter course. Today's reports are all to the effect that the German Powers will totally ignore the Collective Note; while they contain an equally clear intimation on the part of those Powers that their silence must be understood to signify indifference, and not acquiescence. If the English and French Governments like to amuse themselves by what one Vienna newspaper calls a "declaration of war against the windmills," well and good. There is no reason why Germany and Austria should make any observations on the pursuit of so harmless a pastime. For themselves, they repudiate -and, for aught we know, they may truthfully repudiate-any desire to disturb the status quo of which England and France have claimed to be the sole protectors; and since they see no danger of its disturbance from any other quarter, they do not think it necessary to notice a claim which may never have to be practically asserted. But at the same time it is to be perfectly understood by France and England that if any serious complications arise in Egypt, the German Powers will insist, any Anglo-French Note to the contrary notwithstanding, on taking part with their two western neighbours in the settlement of what will then have become an international question. So much as to the effect which the Joint Note is producing in Europe. As to its effect at Cairo, where results more marked and immediate might have been expected, we have had as yet but little information of a definite and satisfactory kind. We are told, indeed, this morning that the Note has "fallen like a thunder-clap" on the National party, and that it has " caused great excitement and even consternation amongst the military party and Notables:" but it does not appear on the facts that it has either awed these parties into a more submissive attitude, or that, so far at least, it has done much to strengthen the Khedive. On the contrary, Tewfik Pacha seems overcome with apprehension of the consequences which the interference of the two Powers may bring upon himself. He has forbidden the native newspapers to comment upon the Note, and he has apparently hastened to correct the report that its despatch was provoked by an appeal for assistance alleged to have been made by him to Sir E. Malet. "He has never held to the British Consul-General any language which could possibly be construed as indicating that he desired, or that there existed a shadow of necessity for, foreign interference of any sort." And while this is the hesitating mood of the Khedive, that of the Chamber-at any

rate if we may judge by their attitude-

appears to be the very opposite. They

have not yet withdrawn what are called

sisted by the European Controllers; and | and as soon as the debate on the Address cannot feel sure that, in spite of the implied menace of the Joint Note, they will not persist in them. Should they maintain their point, it will manifestly place the English Government in a rather awkward position. It may be quite true —and we ourselves are firmly persuaded of it—that the best thing for Egypt would be for the Chamber to withdraw their demands, and allow the Anglo-French régime to subsist unchecked by any national control whatever for at least several years to come. But it is difficult to dispute the right of a regularly convoked and properly constituted assembly to insist on a voice in the administration of their country; and it is equally difficult to deny the scandal which would attend the action of a Liberal Government, with the antecedents of the present Ministry, who should undertake to stifle such a demand by the threat of military coercion .- St. James's Gazette.

GUY'S HOSPITAL. The report of an inquest held on Wednesday gives a sad exposure of certain

defects in the management of a great and

historic London hospital which must

startle and shock even those who are

familiar with recent revelations of a some-

what similar character. The Coroner's jury in this particular instance have returned a verdict, accompanied, indeed, by some qualifying remark, of accidental death. It is only necessary to analyse the facts of the case to see that this verdict in its present form is very far from satisfactory, although it may be hoped that the publicity which it gives to a bad system will lead to its being reformed without delay. The death of Mrs. Bartlett undoubtedly took place, as the jury say, through "misadventure," but it was misadventure of the sort which is known to the Scotch law as culpable homicide She was admitted as a patient into Guy's Hospital on the 19th of December. Her illness was typhoid fever, and in the treatment of it the administration of quinine powders played a prominent part-their bject being to lower her temperature. These powders were wrapped in white paper; there was a ticket attached to them specifying the nature of the contents and the dose to be given; their proper place was a bracket above Mrs. Bartlett's bed. On Saturday night the Clinical assistant went into the Miriam Ward in the hospital, where Jessie Bartlett was lying, to take her temperature. He found that she was almost in articulo mortis, and as a matter of fact she expired in about twenty minutes-that is to say shortly after midnight on the morning of Sunday last. This gentleman did not ask the nurse, Fanny Keyworth, any questions at the time when he saw Mrs. Bartlett dying. He contented himself by simply sending for the House Physician, Mr. Starling, who came and administered the usual remedies, unhappily to no purpose. Sister Victoria Elizabeth Jones, who had charge of the ward, subsequently came to Mr. Denby, the Clinical Assistant, and in his own words, "told him something which explained the cause of death. What that cause was he learned more precisely at the post-mortem examination. It was a dose of morphia, which had been given to the patient instead of the prescribed quinine. Mr. Starling's evidence was to much the same effect. He had seen Mrs. Bartlett some forty minutes before Mr. Denby's summons reached him, and some twenty minutes after the fatal dose had been administered. "There was," he said, "nothing peculiar about her. When he attended her later on he found that she was in a condition of collapse. He at first thought that perforation of the bowels had occurred, but he soon learned, as Mr. Denby learned that mornhia had been given in " mistake for quinine, and that the patient had, in point of fact, been poisoned." The number of Mrs. Bartlett's bed was 26; the number of the patient's bed for whom the morphia was intended was 23, and the nurse Keyworth had nothing whatever to do with the latter. Stil she had contrived to give the morphia meant for No. 23 to Mrs. Bartlett, and she did so because she took it out of a basket on the table into which the morphia powders had been put by the Ward Sister, and from which the nurse had three weeks before taken quinine powders The question raised is-How did the drug intended for the patient in bed No. 23 come to be in this basket, and not, as is the rule, on the bracket above her bed The only conceivable excuse for the Sister is that she had put the morphia powders in the baskets on the table in order that there should be no chance of their getting mixed up with less dangerous drugs on the bracket. But then the nurse Keyworth did not know this; and although evidence was adduced to show that the poisonous powder was specially marked with a warn ing card, it is not clear that the nurse saw the monitory label when she administered the drug. One thing is certain: had the ordinary rule of hospitals been observed, and each patient's drug kept strictly on the bracket above her bed, the morphia prescribed for the sufferer in No 23 could not possibly have been given as quinine to Mrs. Bartlett in No. 26. The origin of this lamentable event, and the conditions under which it occurred, are thus sufficiently intelligible; they are not, however on that account the less unpardonable We have no desire to intensify the painful regrets which both Sister Jones and Nurse Keyworth must feel. They meant no wrong; but, as Hood has told us, Evil is wrought by want of thought as well as by want of heart. The nurse and her superior are both sufficiently punished by the melancholy incident with which their names are connected, and they are not likely to forget the lesson which it enforces. We blame, indeed, no individuals on account of this unhappy business; we blame rather the system, under which such misadventures are possible, and which it seems so difficult in Guy's Hospital to reform. On this head no censure can be too severe. It is clear that in the administration of Guy's Hospital there is

THE COMING STRUGGLE.

still, in spite of recent efforts to improve

matters, nothing like fixity or continuity.

-Standard.

The government of the country can no longer be carried on under the existing rules of the House of Commons. Such is the unanimous conviction of the Ministers responsible for the government of the country, and they are prepared to act on that conviction. When the session opens, instructed in music at an age and at a period

and the Bradlaugh difficulty are over, they will introduce proposals, comprehensive and drastic, for the reform of procedure, and these will be disposed of before any other business is taken in hand, even although the discussion should last till May Day. These proposals, embodying the leading features of the improvements in machinery suggested by Sir Erskine May, will also of necessity contain provisions for restoring in a direct and formal way the power to close debates which until the other day was invariably exercised in an informal fashion by the House of Commons. The only difference will be that, instead of debates being cut short by brute clamour, they will be terminated by a vote of the majority, either on the initiative of the Speaker or by forty members rising in their places, probably by the former. Should the House refuse to sanction reforms declared to be indispensable for the despatch of business by the responsible advisers of the Crown, it will be equivalent to a vote of want of confidence or a refusal to vote supplies. Ministers could not sit down tamely under such a defeat. They would be compelled either to resign or to appeal to the country. There is no mystery about these things. We are revealing no secrets. We are only stating an obvious fact. The decision of the Ministry to stake their existence upon the acceptance of their proposals for the reform of procedure is the best demonstration they can give that the changes they suggest are regarded by them as absolutely indispensable. Ministers represent all shades of opinion in the party which has most to lose from any arbitrary curtailment of the liberty or even the licence of debate. They have all been in a minority, and they all expect, sooner or later, to be in a minority again. Their traditions and their associations naturally lead them to regard with extreme suspicion any new limitation on the rights of minorities or the privileges of private members. Every consideration of private or party interest would lead them to evade or postpone the necessity for straining the allegiance of their followers by making so unpopular a proposal. Nevertheless they are driven to make, and, having made it, to stand or fall by, their proposal. The change is required not to secure the passage of any bill or of any set of bills. It is to save parliamentary government from perishing of paralysis. The Liberum veto slew free institutions in Poland; and, unless the despotism of a minority is suppressed by the authority of a majority, it will have not less fatal consequences in England. This is not a time, when the very existence of representative government is being rudely assailed on the Continent, to allow representative government in its original seat to be reduced to a byword and a reproach by the licence of disorderly loquacity, even although it masquerades under the guise of freedom of discussion and the rights of minorities. -Pall Mall Gazette.

THE WINE DUTIES. A Scotch Chamber of Commerce has

proposed that one of the subjects for consideration at the annual meetings of the Association of Chambers of Commerce, which are to be held in London at the end of next month, should be the expediency of memorialising her Majesty's Government to take the earliest opportunity of negotiating a commercial treaty with the Government of Spain:-

The announcement made by a Gambettist journal in Paris that the negotiations for a commercial treaty between France and England are definitively broken off gives timeliness to this suggestion. It opens up the subject of the readjustment of the wine duties, and suggests the practicability of fixing a new scale of duties which will remedy the existing inequalities. At the pre-sent moment wines with less than 26 degrees of proof spirit pay to the revenue a duty of one shilling a gallon, but as respects wines of more than 26 degrees, the duty leaps with a single bound up to half-a-crown a gallon.

The result has proved most injurious to the Spanish wine trade; and the Spaniards have, on their side, retaliated by levying heavy duties upon English manufac-tured goods. The Chambers of Commerce are opportune in the moment they have chosen for calling attention to this subject. Mr. Gladstone, it is understood, is now considering the various fiscal questions which are likely to have a place in his Budget, and suggestions of a practical character from the representatives of the commercial public may perhaps be made more usefully during the next few weeks than at any other period of the year. It is a little strange that although upwards of thirty different topics are to be submitted to the forthcoming meetings of the Association, the subject of the wine duties in relation to our colonies is not included in the list. Yet, as wine-growing countries like Australia and South Africa are as deeply interested as Spain in the readjustment of these duties, it is manifestly desirable that we should consider their point of view equally with that of the Spanish Government. They argue that as the existing system is, in its effects, prohibitory so far as Australian and Cape wines are concerned, we are guilty of violating the principles of Free Trade, as well as of acting unfairly to the colonists. Mr. Gladstone, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, may be trusted to give a full and impartial hearing to those who, entertaining these views, desire to improve our commercial relations both with Spain and with the British colonies. It will be seen from a telegram from our Roman Correspondent that the Italian Government is not insensible to the opportunity of making favourable arrangements with respect to Italian wines which is offered by the breakdown of the treaty negotiations with France.-Daily News.

THE MUSICAL WORKS OF THE PRINCE CONSORT.

It has long been known that the late Prince Consort added to his other acquirements a scientific knowledge of music. Various pieces of his composition, for instance a Te Deum, are already known to the world outside the musical profession, but the majority of his collected compositions will be found new to almost all. These works, of varied character and complexion, have been edited by Mr. W G. Cusins, the Queen's "Master of the Mu-sicke," and produced in very handsome style by Messsr. Metzler and Co. in a bound volume of two hundred and twenty pages. It was at first proposed to issue the book for private circulation only; but on it being represented to her Majesty that it would demand a wider circulation, her consent was immediately granted to its publication in its present form. It appears at a time when the public are well aware of the musical taste of the Royal Family, and of the efforts that are being made under their auspices for the improvement of musical culture in England. This musical talent probably comes principally from the Saxe-Coburg side, although it should not be forgotten that the intellectual dulness of George III. was relieved by taste for, and skill in, music. The Prince Consort, like his

when such studies would have been thought when such studies would have been thought effeminate in this country. English people have always been unjust in this and some other particulars, and have before now been surprised into taking slight account of a chamois or ibex hunter because he was not minutely acquainted with our highly elaborate manner of killing a fox. England has outgrown many of such prejudices, and it is now held many of such prejudices, and it is now held by no means discreditable in a young man play the organ or pianoforte, or even e violin. Other times bring other manners but it is curious to note that the musica studies of the Prince Consort had no motive of proselytism. They were undertaken and pursued in a far more modest spirit. As he himself explained, he practised music as he did other things, not in a vain spirit of Crichtonism, but in order that he might be able to understand and appreciate the work of others. In music, as in painting and other arts, he desired the faculty of comprehension and the power of judgment, without aspiring to competition in any field with the acknowledged masters of art.

Notwithstanding this modesty of intention, there is no doubt that Prince Albert attained musical proficiency considerably above the amateur level. It is quite unnecessary, and would be entirely beside the mark, to speak of his musical compositions as Boileau did of Louis XIV.'s verses, as Voltaire did of those of the Great Frederick. They are unpretentious compositions done in a workmanlike manner. Simple and straightforward in deed as in speech, the Prince set before him in the great majority of the works before us a goal which a fairly accomplished musician should be able to attain. He attempted neither a symphony nor an opera, and essayed none of the complex harmonies which can only be successfully dealt with by a master hand. His object was apparently to write such meas would fall within the range of an ordinary voice and fair power of vocalisa-tion. With the exception of a few concerted pieces, the numbers are such as might be written by a house-father accomplished in music for the performance and enjoyment of his own family—that is, songs eminently vocal and devoid of difficult intervals, and with a very free accompaniment. Of this class is the pretty set of Reineck's words entitled "Sontags Klange," and the more plain-tive "Dem Fernen." Another pleasing air is "Vergissmeinnicht" and somewhat more ambitious is "Orangenzweig," a sort of elaborate scena. The Chorales too have merit of their own, and a "Reiterlied" with chorus is distinctly characteristic and full of life and vigour. In length and aim the most important composition is a choral ode or Invocation to Harmony. This is written to Italian words, and includes solos for soprano, tenor, and bass, with full chorus. The intro-ductory chorus, allegro maestoso, "Armonia, Armonia," the allegretto "Scendi a noi," and the andante for soprano, " Versa un dolce," have all the merit which belongs to the work of a practised hand, without perhaps the advantage of originality, but yet endowed with a certain solidity and honesty of execution.

A similar remark will apply to the majority of the forty works for the voice and piano-forte, including one melody for the violin. There is thoroughness of purpose evident throughout, a desire to at least put out the strength that was in the writer, always intent on self-improvement with the object previously referred to.

There can be little doubt of the interest which such a work will excite in the musical world. What is especially noteworthy in it is a certain dramatic fitness which characterises music not otherwise remarkable except for the ease with which it can be sung and played. This dramatic fibre is distinctly felt in the anthem "Out of the Deep," which with the "Te Deum" forms part of a morning service; in the "Reiterlied, and in the chorales. This is the more surprising in that the type of the Prince Consort's wellbalanced mind was naturally rather judicial than dramatic; yet there is the true cavalry dash in the "Reiterleid," that rattle of the sabre and jingle of the spur without which cavalier ditties sink to infantry level. Another reflection is suggested by the number of compositions. The Prince was an extremely busy man; and it may be wondered how he found time to produce so much musical work. But the busiest of men can find time for the pursuit they prefer. The Prince Consort, generally wise and temperate in counsel, was not endowed with conspicuous oratorical or literary faculty; but it would seem that his artistic powers found fit expression in music This is no uncommon case. It is rare that several forms of invention are found in the same individual. Many-sided men like Leonardo da Vinci and Michael Angelo are very few, and the calm judicial faculty is seldom allied with creative powers of a high order. By the publication of the Prince compositions the public will be enabled to form a judgment of his artistic faculty .- Daily News.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE " MORNING POST.")

We are authorised to state that no date has as yet been actually fixed for Prince Leopold's marriage, but it will certainly not take place till after Easter.

Sir John Holker, Q.C., M.P., who has just been appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal in the place of the late Lord Justice Lush, will be sworn in before the Lord Chancellor on Saturday next, and it is expected that the new Judge will take his seat in the Court of Appeal at Lincoln's-inn on Monday next. General Sir Frederick Roberts will, it is understood, retain the command of the Madras

army, and there is now no probability of his joining the Horse Guards Staff. An open competition for clerkships of the higher class is about to be held. One of the vacancies offered will be a clerkship in the Colonial-office, with a commencing salary of £250 per annum. For particulars applications should be made to the secretary to the Civil Service Commissioners, Cannon-row

(FROM THE " DAILY NEWS.") The Queen has been pleased to approve of the admission of Sir T. Erskine Perry as a member of her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council. Sir T. E. Perry has recently retired, after a long and distinguished publi service, from the Indian Council.

The subject of the telegraphs will be submitted to the annual meetings of the Associa-tion of Chambers of Commerce, which, as we have already stated, will commence on February 28. It will be proposed that a deputation be appointed to wait on the Postmaster-General, in order to impress upon him the desirability of the Government entering into negotiations with foreign countries for the purpose of cheapening and facilitat-ing telegraphic communication. It will also be proposed to present him with a memorial urging the desirability of laying the telegraphic wires in the country underground. The captain's good service pension of £150 a year, vacant by the promotion to flag rank on the 31st of December last of Captair William H. Edye, has been awarded to Captain St. George Caulfield D'Arcy-Irvine.

LONDON GOSSIP. (FROM "TRUTH.")

The health of the Duchess of Cambridge has been rather worse than usual lately, and in consequence of the intense nervousness of her Royal Highness, the drums of the Guards band have not been played during the last fortnight, when the guard at St. James's

Palace was being relieved.

After being discontinued for several years from various causes, Lord and Lady Wilton have resumed their annual birthday ball at Egerton Lodge, which this year celebrated "the Earl's" 82d anniversary. The house "the Earl's" 82d anniversary. The house party participated in the sports, and his lord-

ship opened the ball in a country dance. Everyone was pleased to see both the Duke of Rutland and Lord Wilton on horseback at the Granton Park meet of the Belvoir, last Wednesday. The Nestor of the Shires is now in excellent health, and intends to re-

now in excellent health, and intends to remain at Melton throughout the season.

A very successful fancy dress ball was given at Southsea, on Friday, but the spectacle would have been considerably more brilliant if bond-fide fancy dress had been a condition of admission, to the exclusion of uniforms, which of course largely reademinated. Prince which, of course, largely predominated. Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar brought and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar brought a party from Government House. The Princess was Anne of Austria, Lady Caroline Lennox came as a lady of the clan Gordon in grande toilette, and Lady Albert Seymour as La Mascotte. The Marine Artillery band officiated, and gave great satisfaction, but during the earlier part of the night the ball-room was too crowded for comfortable dancing.

Mr. Bernal Osborne would have been more successful in life had he been less witty. He had a considerable fund of common sense. was well read, and in Parliament he was an excellent debater. But his jokes were good, and were quoted, therefore the world would not believe that he could do anything else. Socially, he was a most agreeable companion; but he was not at his best when at a dinner-party where he knew that he was expected to shine, for he had a habit of making the most stirridge most stirridge most attailed. most stupid or most retiring man at table his butt, and would say things rather disagreeable than witty to him, and this peculiarity was all the more remarkable as he was kind and good natured when not engaged in these professional fireworks. He died of a catarrh of the stomach, which he seemed to do his best to render incurable by dosing himself with medicine and mineral waters.

The Duke of Argyll has received a present of wild turkeys from America, and he intends to try and breed them at Inverary. I hope he will succeed, for they are splendid eating, incomparably superior to the average farm turkey; moreover, they afford good sport. The Duke of Cumberland tried to introduce them into Windsor Park; and in the reigns of George I. and II. there were great flocks in Richmond Park, but the breed unluckily became extinct.

A fresh country is to be opened up for hunting in Devon, Lady Rolle having consented to allow Lord Haldon's hounds to hunt on the Bicton estate, and on the district to the south-east of Exeter. Mr. Palk is prepared to hunt this country two days a week if £500 a year be guaranteed for three

years.

Lord Randolph Churchill has been hunting in Ireland with the Meath hounds, one of the few Irish packs which have not been disturbed in their sport.

The Royal Princes mean well in advocat-

ing a Royal College of Music, but I hardly think that the country will be prepared to vote funds for this fad. Did such a Conservatorium exist, we are told that "the genuine traditions of Handel, or even of Mendelssohn," would be maintained, and that "young singers with voices of splendid quality, but not under proper control," would no longer sing at public concerts. For no such pur-poses as these will the mass of the taxpayers consent to have their burthens increased. A Conservatorium of Music would simply mean a large and expensive home with a large and expensive staff, and it would be denounced by all musicians who were not on the staff. There are many objects, excellent enough in heir way, and amongst m may be re maintaining the traditions of Handel, and teaching singers with good voices to have them under control, which are not of such general importance to the community as to justify their being supported out of the public purse. Artists are always of opinion that their own particular art is more important than all else in the world. They and their friends are for ever engaged in raids on the public exchequer, which it is the business of

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, WEDNESDAY.

The Queen drove out yesterdsy afternoon attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely to Osborne Cottage, where her Majesty awaited the arrival of the Empress Eugenie. The Empress, attended by Mme. de Arcos, the Duc de Bassano, and Baron Corvisart, crossed from Portsmouth in her Majesty's yacht Alberta, Captain Thompson, Captain Bigge, Equerry in Waiting, having attended the Empress from London. Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, attended by the Hon. Lady Biddulph, Mile. Norèle, and Major-General Du Plat, received the Empress on her arrival at Trinity Pier, East Cowes. The Queen walked with the Empress this morning, and afterwards drove with the Dowager Marchioness of Ely. Princess Beatrice rode with Mile. Norele.

The Prince of Wales left Bradgate Hall, the seat of Lord Stamford, on Wednesday morning, for a day's shooting in the woods of Charnwood Forest. The party numbered 12 guns, carried by the same gentlemen as on the previous day. The morning shooting began near Groby Pool, where a large number of hares were bagged. Pheasant shooting also took place in Shaw Wood, after which lunch was served. The afternoon's sport was concluded at Lawn Barn. Here over a hundred conveyances lined the road, and there was a large number of spectators to witness the conclusion of the day's sport. At dusk the Prince and party left the wood, and, accompanied by the Countess of Stamford and several of the guests, walked to the royal carriage amidst the greatest enthu-siasm and hearty cheering. The mayor of siasm and hearty cheering. The mayor of Leicester, Alderman Chambers, formed one

of the dinner party at Bradgate Hall. The visit of the Princess Louise to Liverpool to witness the departure of her husband for Canada created a good deal of stir in the crowds congregating on Wednesday at the railway station, the Town Hall, and the landing-stage. The Royal party, having landing-stage. The Royal party, having reached the station, were driven to the Town Hall, where her Royal Highness inscribed her name in the book of autographs kept there. Opportunity was taken of this visit by the working opticians of Liverpool to send a deputation, consisting of Mr. T. G. Morris and Mr. J. J. Turner, to request the acceptance by the Marquis of a pair of eye-pre-servers as a protection against the glare of snow; and in accepting the gift his Excel-lency remarked that in the long marches undertaken in Canada they would be extremely useful. The visitors were then tertained at luncheon by the Mayor, and in responding to the toast of "The Princess and the Marquis," his Excellency said that it was by his own particular wish and the urgent representations of her medical advisers that her Royal Highness consented to remain in England, in the hope that her health might be perfectly restored; but he trusted that she would be able to rejoin him in Canada early in spring. The party then started for the landing-stage, and proceeded on board the steamer Fairy Queen to the Allan mail steamer Parisian, where her Royal Highness bade the Marquis an affectionate good-bye. The Princess returned to London by the five o'clock train. The following is a complete list of the party by whom his Excellency the Governor-General is accompanied to Canada: Lady Frances Balfour, Mr. R. Balfour, Hon. W. Bagot, Colonel F. De Winton, Mrs. De Winton, Miss De Winton, Master De Winton, and infant; Mrs. Mackenzie, and the servants in attendance upon his Excel-

lency and suite. The Duke of Cambridge returned to Gloucester House, Park-lane, on Tuesday night from attending the funeral of General the Hon. James Macdonald at Thorpe, near Brid-

Galignani's Messenger.

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PRICE 40 CENTIMES

Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 12-13, 1882.

THE COMING ELECTIONS. Two very interesting elections are shortly to take place. By the elevation to the Bench of Sir John Holker a vacancy is created at Preston, and two candidates are already in the field for the seat vacated by Lord Helmsley, in the North Riding of Yorkshire. In the latter the representation has often been divided, but Preston has for many years been represented by two Conservatives, and is a decidedly safe seat for the party. If any doubt ever existed about the matter, it would be dispelled now that Mr. Cecil Raikes has been chosen to contest the borough in the interest of the Opposition. It is, indeed, well that the Conservative party are able to offer the services of a politician not only of his proved capacity, but whose abilities and official experience render him at this particular juncture capable of giving the State peculiarly valuable service in Parliament. It would be hasty, perhaps, to conclude that his opponents will rejoice enthusiastically over his return. But it is not difficult to believe that they will admit that, as they must be beaten, they would prefer to be defeated by Mr. Raikes, rather than by any other Conservative. For this feeling a good reason can be given. The coming Session is likely to be known in Parliamentary history as the Clôture Session. One of the main questions of controversy to be devoted will be the Reform of Parliamentary Procedure. Upon that question Mr. Raikes, from his experience as Chairman of Committees during the last Parliament, is in a position to speak as one possessing high authority. He was the first Chairman of Committees who had to deal with Obstruction as an almost irrepressible nuisance. In his manner of meeting the novel difficulties which hampered him in the discharge of his duties he is admitted on the whole, even by the Irish members, to have displayed not only firmness and courtesy, but a swift competence on emergency that more than once enabled him to save the House from grave perils on critical occasions. Not only by his conduct in the Chair, but by his published writings, Mr. Raikes has shown that he has a thorough practical knowledge of details in the management of Parliamentary business, which in the discussions on the Ministerial proposals will enable him to give the House not only sound advice but safe guidance. For this reason, if for no other, the country will be glad that he is to fill the place vacated by the well-merited promotion of Sir J. Holker. In view of the inevitable result of a contest in a borough of such pronounced Conservative opinions as Preston, it ought to be, in the circumstances, a on for the Liberals whether they will not be sacrificing the interests of the country to those of faction, if they put the ex-Chairman of Committees to cost and trouble of a contest at all. It is a misfortune that at any time the House of Commons should be deprived of the services of men like Mr. Raikes-no matter what their Parliamentary connections may be. But as the question of coercion substituting for freedom of debate is to be dealt with next Session, the absence of such men from the deliberations of the House would amount to something more than a misfortune. Hence, apart altogether from the conspicuous lovalty with which Preston has always supported Conservative candidates, it may be taken for granted that Mr. Raikes will receive the undivided support of the members of his own Party, and we hope that it may also be his happy fortune to command the undisguised sympathy, or at least meet the softened hostility even of his political antagonists. But of the contest in the North Riding it would be hardly prudent to speak so confidently. The fight in this Constituency is likely to be unusually keen and severe. The Liberals are not content with dividing the representation of the Division; they have resolved to monopolise it; and it would be idle to ignore the fact that in Mr. Samuel Rowlandson, who carries the banner of the Farmers' Alliance, they possess a candidate whom it would be folly to despise. Mr. Rowlandson is well known to the farmers of the North Riding. He is a voluble speaker at agricultural meetings, and a constant attendant at cattle shows, where he sometimes officiates as a judge. A gentleman who in this way keeps his name steadily for some years before the bucolic public, has always a certain hold upon the sympathies of rural electors-a hold which Party managers, if they be wise, will be very slow to disregard. Mr. Rowlandson is, moreover, by no means parsimonious in pledges. He is willing to vote for the abolition of the Law of Distress, for Representative County Boards, Equalisation of Town and County Franchise, something very like Tenant Right, and a Readjustment, in the farmer's interest, of the Charges levied by Railway Companies for the Carriage of Agricultural Produce. In a word, he, as literally as possible, puts forward as his political Confession of Faith the familiar programme of the Farmers' Alliance. Such assurances as he gives, we must remind the electors of the North Riding, cost little, and may mean less. The cheapest plan to adopt for finding favour in the eves of men whose votes are being angled for is to promise to give them what they want, while concealing from them the practical difficulties that may hinder the immediate or even the ultimate realisation of their desires. But, looking at the two rival candidates in the North Riding, and keeping in view the proverbial shrewdness of the "Northern Farmer." it is hard to believe that specious pledges will decide the issue. Mr. Rowlandson, in fact, ought to find in Mr. Dawnay an opponent who, apart from his political utterances, bears a name which is one to conjure with in the district. He is a member of an old county family, and he has on his side not only the influence which supported his predecessor, Viscount Helmsley, but much more besides, which Lord Helmsley could not command. As a daring and skilful sportsman, and one who has risked his life in distant lands in the service of the country, he appeals to every instinct characteristic of Yorkshiremen. Then he will receive the support not only of the Conservative landowners, but also

of a great number of the most influential

of the resident gentry who have hitherto

attached themselves to the opposite Party

QUESTION.

Mr. Gladstone's rent audit was held at the Glynne Arms Hotel, Hawarden, on Tuesday afternoon. The Premier had arranged to be present, but in consequence of his detention in London, he requested that the usual dinner should be postponed until Thursday, when he intimated that he would attend and address the tenantry on agricultural affairs. The Premier, accompanied by Mr. W. H. Gladstone, entered the room at half-past two, and was cor-

dially received:—
In responding to the toast of his health,
Mr. Gladstone said:—The desire of the present Administration is to propose a thoroughly efficient measure of local government which shall give to the inhabitants of the counties an effective power of controlling the county expenditure with the same principles of freedom and of representative government which belongs to our central legislature, and these principles shall be carried into effect under the local government of rural districts just as much as it is now in the cities of the country. (Cheers.) There is another subject which you will no doubt wish to hear what I have to say. What is to be done for you with respect to assisting local taxation from Imperial sources? We are most desirous that you should have in the first place the means of controlling local expenditure and authority over the sources from which local taxes are raised; that you should have the means of controlling expenditure and that the means should be so arranged as to give no temptation to waste, but that you should have every inducement to economise the outlay of money. But it is a very important question, whether, and in what measure, in what de-gree, you may receive further assistance from the Imperial exchequer. You receive a great deal of assistance now, but, in my opinion, in a bad form. The police of the country, the gaols of the country-these exes are borne either entirely or in part, and some of the poor law charges are borne either entirely or in part, by the exchequer of the country; but they are borne in such a way as in general not to contri-bute to economy, in such a way as to induce a great deal, and I think probably too much, of central interference, or what is called cen-tralisation, in the local government, and rather to draw us away from that old prinrather to draw us away from that our principle of English institutions which lies at the very root of them, viz., the principle that the local populations should have the management and control of local affairs. But, apart from that, the demand for assistance from the public exchequer might not be an unreasonable demand. It is based upon several considerations. One of them is that at the time when the present charges were fixed upon of the country was comparatively small, and it was felt, and it would be reasonable, that the personal property should bear a larger share of the charge. That may be so. Another consideration is that changes are intro-duced by Parliament in the relative liability of the different districts of the country. For example, there are some parts of this parish of which the liability to rates has been very considerably altered by the Legislature during the past few years. And again, the law places upon the shoulders of the occupier the mmediate charge, which presses severely upon him at the time when new rates are in troduced or when old rates are increased. (Cheers.) Now, these are all matters which, n the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, deserve and call for great attention. The mode of meeting the public emergencies in these matters is much too complicated for me to enter upon at the present moment. We are devoting our attention to it with all our energy, and we hope to bring it under the early attention of Parliament. I say the early attention of Parliament, because we are obliged now, if we speak of introducing anything into Parliament, to speak with reserve, inasmuch as you know that the forms of Parliament have of late been used for purposes the very reverse of those for which they vere intended. They are used very much for preventing any legislation at all—(hear, hear)—and the matter is, I may say, of such magnitude that her Majesty's Government will have to deal with it in the coming ses-(Cheers.) Before bringing one great legislative measure of reform, it will be necessary to put the House of Commons in a condition satisfactorily to perform those duties; and I earnestly hope that in the efforts we may make towards that end we shall receive the energetic support of public opinion. When that matter is disposed of I don't know of anything that will stand between us and endeavour we intend to make to deal with these questions—local government and the expenditure of local taxes—in such a way as I hope will be found to meet reasonable expectations. I am not aware of anything else that I ought to say, unless that I ought to make a confession and administer a caution. (Laughter and cheers.) It is all very well—it may be all very right perhaps to provide that the all very right, perhaps, to provide that the incidence of the rating should not be borne exclusively as it now is by the farmer, and when we speak of prospective arrangement it may be very right to provide them assistance in bearing the charges of these rates such as I have already glanced at. But if we are to look at the permanent interest of the occupier of the land, it must be borne in mind that whatever is the case the rates in rural districts will ultimately come back to the landlord. (Hear, hear.) You may get a great deal of benefit from it in the meantime, but you know perfectly well that, if the rates upon the farm are £50 in the year, and these rates are reduced by public measures to £25, eventually the farmer and his family disappear altogether, and a new tenant comes in. That new tenant will give £25 more rent for the farm than he would otherwise have done, because every tenant who puts to himself the question as to what amount of rent he can afford to pay will put against himself any rates he will have to pay, and will reckon in his own favour any reduction in those rates. In the case of new tenancies the reduction of those rates will tell for the benefit of the landlord. Therefore, as one interested in the landlord, I should be very sorry to say that a reduction of the rates would be that which would sufficiently provide for the benefit of the tenant farmer through all time. For the benefit of the existing farmer I hope it will provide, but, as o the benefit of the successor on the farm, the reduction of the rates will be a reduction which will be one the exclusive benefit of which will probably be found to be only felt by the landlord. Do not suppose me to say that that is a reason why the thing should not be done; but it is certainly a reason for considering whether, if the landlord is ultimately to receive a great benefit at the expense of the general body of taxpayers, or from a charge upon any of the taxpayers, or from a charge upon any of the taxes of the country, that would not be reason for taking away some of the advantages which the landlord now enjoys in respect to the taxes; because, as they were probably aware, whereas personal property, which included farming stock, is taxed very heavily upon the death of the owner or when it passes to a successor, landed property is taxed very lightly; and I give it as my opinion that if the landlord is to be a receiver of great ultimate benefit by the reduction of rates at the cost of the general public, it would be right that some account should be taken of that by the landlord when he comes into his property on the death of the previous possessor. There are a variety of subjects upon which I

do not wish to detain you at any length, be-

cause I should feel myself guilty of imper-

tinence if I were to attempt to make recom-mendations to you upon the manner in which

you are carrying on your business. But this

MR. GLADSTONE ON THE LAND I may venture to say, that although I have spoken of two great causes operating upon agricultural prosperity—namely, the state of the seasons, and the state of the general trade of the country, which determine whether you are to have rich customers or poor ones, and thereby determine what you are to receive in a great degree for your products one other subject, more important than either of these, and that is the skill and capical of the farmer himself—the capital he possesse and the way in which he uses that capital. for my part have always felt that one of the great difficulties of this subject is that the agriculturist is called upon to undertake, and he does undertake voluntarily, a task of very great difficulty. He has a wider and more varied knowledge to acquire. His profession, although it is probably the most agreeable of all professions, yet is also, on account of the demand which it makes upon his knowledge and skill, the most difficult of all professions. After a brief reference to the introduction of machinery into agriculture and to the advantages of raising poultry and vegetables on farms, the right hon, gentleman concluded as follows :- I quite admit that in my public capacity you have a right to expect that such exertions as I can make shall be used to do what the law can do towards improving your condition. But after the law has done all that it can possibly do, those two causes to which I first referred will be of greater consequence than anything that the law can do. The seasons that God may send us, and, secondly the trade of the country, on which you depend for a good, brisk, and profitable market your own skill, your own industry, your own study to find out modes of improving your operations, and modes of introducing new processes where they are defective—in this lies the main matter of all, I can only hope that it may be given to you so to enjoy the benefits of just legislation, so to witness the bounty of Providence from year to year, so to see all classes of the community flourishing around you in order that you may assure your property, and so to develop your own energy and industry that as you meet in this room from year to year you may meet under circumstances ever growing brighter and brighter, ever diminishing your cares and increasing your hopes, that your calling may prosper for the honour and profit of yourselves

ECHOES.

and the advantage of your country. (Loud

It is a very sad thing to be utterly desperate -to find that the little Pandora's box of Tun-bridge Wells ware, privately presented to one many years since, and from which so many evils and distempers have issued, has disinte-grated with the dry rot, and that even Hope has fallen through. Yes; I am, at this time of writing, altogether hopeless of being able to persuade those disastrous personages, the writers of political leading articles in the to use an obvious English equivalent for the French word "Clôture. The odious word cloture-I call it odious

since we have the sonorous English equivalent ready to our hand—is quoted in the St. James's Gazette of Jan. 9, some half a dozen times. There is a leading article entitled "The Cloture" in the World of this week. I have seen it quoted in the Standard and many other papers; and between this and the opening of Parliament the political leader writers, all over the country, will be "talking the leg off an iron pit," so to speak, about "la clôture;" and McJingo, that fervid antiat the annual dinner of the West Clodshire Constitutional Club, that "we don't want no

Clottoor in this country." "It is always considered," wrote Sydney as a piece of impertinence in England, if a man with less than two or three thousand a year has any opinions at all on important subjects." There it is. If I had three thousand a year; if I were Professor Mouldymugg, F.R.S., or the Rev. Grymes Wapshott, D.D., or Mr. Nimbleninepence, M.P., or even My Lord Tomnoddy, I might persuade people to listen to me on the matter of "closure" against "cloture." As it is I am Nobody, and Hopeless. Indeed, I may esteem myself fortunate if I escape being branded as "sensational" in protesting against the attempted foisting on our lan guage by the political leader-monger of the clumsily new-fangled word "cloture." Italians have adopted the system; but they disdain to borrow the word from the French

Words; idle words. We have to thank the Charity Organisation Society for the ina brand new compound English word. What do you say to a "non-providentable-bodied case"? I read of such a 'case" in the report of a recent meeting of the beneficent institution in question. After this, what becomes of the briar-wood-pipe-smoking, bull-terrier-keeping, knifeboard-of-omnibus-patronising, music-hall-ditty-humming, Gaiety-restaurant young man; or the American "shinning-round-the-free-lunches, killikillick-chewing, cocktail-imbibing, draw-phar-playing, pool-law-shiding, scallawage poker-playing, non-law-abiding, scallawaghoodlum cuss"? The non-provident-able-bodied case is, I gather from the Charity Organisation report, a labouring man able to work, but who has got no work to do. He has been "non-provident"—that is to say he has neglected to become a Forester, as Odd Fellow, a Druid, or an Ancient Briton to invest in Consols, or make deposits in the Post-Office Savings' Bank. Away with the "non-provident-able-bodied case" to the workhouse! There let him crack stones and

A charming Christmas gift comes to me from Leipsic, in the form of a handsomely bound little tome, being the two-thousandth volume of the world-famed Tauchnitz Collection of British Authors. What a cheerful kindly benefactor to English tourists abroad has been the Baron Bernard Christian von Tauchnitz. Since '41, I think, has the Tauchnitz series been in course of publication. "At that time there was no international copyright; but Herr Tauchnitz resolved to obtain the sanction of the authors, and pay them for permission to include their productions in his series." Nobly has the House of Tauchnitz abided by its upright resolve. Most of the people of the pen have tasted the Tauchnitz blood, in the shape o handsome cheques; and my brethren and sisters will, perhaps, agree with me when l say that when, in the fullness of time, the Herr Baron is gathered to his fathers there could scarcely be a better epitaph for inscription on his mausoleum than the one (slight) altered) placed by Mr. Ruskin on the tomb o his father, who was a wine merchant. The Tauchnitz epitaph should read:—

Although a Publisher, A Generous Man. The two-thousandth Tauchnitz is Professor Morley's "English Literature in the Reign of Victoria: with a Glance at the Past;" but the charm of the book is the copious collec-tion of facsimiles of the autographs of British and American authors who have had dealings with the House of Tauchnitz. Here shall you mark the bold feminine "fist" of the beautifu Countess of Blessington (1843), the flowing but magisterial "firma" of Miss M. E. Braddon (1866); the delicate Italian hand of "E. L. Bulwer" (1843); "Edward Bulwer Lytton" Bulwer" (1843); "Edward Bulwer I (1844), and the slightly tremulous "I (1868). Miss Rhoda Broughton (1868). Miss Rhoda Broughton "loom large" under the date of 1881; "B. Disraeli writes a big, legal, engrossing-looking hand in 1844, and is big and bold, but deviates from the horizontal line in 1881; Mrs. Frances Cashel Hoev seems to have been studying German caligraphy in 1872, so narrowly parallel are her up and down strokes: "Oulda" is simply and gracefully legible in 1860; Caroline Norton flourishes too much in 1871 : Charles Reade in 1856 bears down you like some great Spanish galleon; and the sign manual Katherine Saunders (1873) might be one of the signatures, so sternly resolute is it, to the death warrant of Charles the First

Thomas Carlyle is almost illegible in 1865; E. C. Grenville Murray is diplomatically clear in 1872; and W. M. Thackeray (1857)—in his cursive and oblique, not his horizontal Anglo-Greek character—would do honour to copper-plate engraver of visiting cards. Anne Thackeray" in 1875, developed into Anne Ritchie in 1879, quite overpowers, caligraphically, her illustrious sire.—G. A. S. in the *Illustrated London News*.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, THURSDAY. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out The Queen and Princess Dearnes are systematically afternoon, attended by the Hon. Victoria Baillie; and her Majesty walked with the Princess this morning. The Hon. with the Princess this morning. The Hon Lady Biddulph had the honour of dining with the Queen yesterday.

The Prince of Wales had an exceedingly good day's shooting on the estate of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington at Bradgate, Leicestershire, on Thursday. The morning was rather foggy, and consequently it was after ten o'clock when his Royal Highness, Lord Stamford, and the party left the hall. The attendance of spectators was enormous Hundreds of conveyances of all kinds lined the roads, and several thousand people, many of whom had walked many miles, watched the shooting with the keenest interest. On the road from Leicester to Bradgate was one continuous stream of conveyances, and at four o'clock there could not have been less than between 5,000 and 10,000 people in the field adjoining the wood where the Royal party were shooting. The fog then became rather dense, and the people, imagining that the sport had concluded, advanced cheering vociferously. The pheasants, owing to the og, refused to rise, and the cessation of firing led the people to suppose the sport was over, and in their loyal enthusiasm unwittingly prevented the Royal party shooting over the remaining part of the wood. His Royal Highness then left the wood and walked along the road towards the entrance of the private grounds, the crowd cheering tremendously. At night there were brilliant illuminations in the park and grounds.

The German Ambassador returned to the German Embassy on Thursday from visiting Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kennard at Gaddington Park, near Ashford.

The Earl and Countess of Egmont have entertained during the last week, at Cowdray Park, Viscount and Viscountess Gormanston, Lord and Lady Romilly, Lady Frances Warburton, Lady Westbury and Hon. Miss Bethell, Hon. Mrs. George Brown, Sir Basil and Lady Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Perceval, Mr. C. Egerton Legge, Mr. M. Longfield, and Mr. E. R. Turton.

Viscount and Viscountess Holmesdale's party at Riddlesworth Hall during the week includes Count and Countess Gleichen and Countess Feodore Gleichen, the Earl and Countess of St. Germans, the Earl and Countess of Romney. Captain and Lady Elinor Denison, Colonel Antrobus, Colonel Jervoise, and Major

The death is announced of the Dowager Lady Fairbairn, in her 91st year. Her ladyship was the widow of the great engineer Sir William Fairbairn, Bart., LL.D., F.R.S. who died in 1874. In latter years she has resided with her son, the vicar of Waltham St. Laurence, Berks, and died at the vicarage on Wednesday last.

Helmsley were interred at the Cemetery Helmsley. The funeral procession left the north wing of Duncombe Park, where the body of the deceased nobleman had laid, at half-past twelve. The hearse was followed by the mourning coaches, which were occued as follows: The Earl of Feversham, the Hon. Herbert Duncombe, the Hon. Cecil Duncombe, Sir Frederick Graham, Viscount Castlereagh, Colonel Chaplin, the Hon. W. Carpenter, Mr. W. Beckett Denison, the Hon. R. Talbot, the Hon. E. Talbot, the Hon. Patrick Talbot, the Hon. and Rev. W. Talbot, Mr. W. Duncombe, Mr. Ernest Denison, the Hon. W. North, Sir Charles Legard Bart., Colonel Charles Duncombe, Captain Alfred Duncombe, Mr. George Duncombe, the Earl of Waterford, Lord A. Somerset, the Earl of Fife, the Earl of Zetland, Viscoun Lascelles, the Hon. F. Johnson, the Hon. C. Byng, Sir George Wombwell, Colonel Bateson, Lord Marcus Beresford, Viscount Cole Lord B. Paget, Viscount Valentia, the Right Hon. James Lowther, Lord Wenlock, Mr. A. Millbank, M.P., the Hon. W. Gerald, Colonel Keith Fraser, Mr. W. H. Garforth, Lord Downe, Colonel Dawnay, M.P., the Hon. C. Dawnay, Sir F. Graham, Sir H. B. Pearson, and others.

THE CHARGE AGAINST THE MARQUIS OF HUNTLY.

At the Mansion House Justice-room on Thursday, before the Lord Mayor, Mr. Bes-ley said that on Dec. 29 a gentleman on his behalf applied that a warrant might issue against the Marquis of Huntly for the enforcement of a process of the Court. His lordship thought it right further time should be given and, accordingly, the application was adjourned for renewal that day. There was not the least desire on the part of Mr. Nicholson, the gentleman who had advanced the money (upwards of £2,400) to the noble marquis, eep any of the facts from the Court, and if his lordship chose he would hand in the copy of some correspondence which had passed l tween the complainant's solicitor and the legal firm who would have felt justified in rerepresenting the marquis under ordinary circumstances, but who now declined to appear for him under a criminal charge. An application was made to them to supply the address of the marquis, but they felt it to be incompatible with their position to do so; neither would they receive from the officer of the Court the process which his lordship had ordered to issue. The exact whereabouts of the marquis was therefore not known. The complainant did not wish to impose upon his lordship (the Lord Mayor) any extreme responsibility, or even to embarrass any persons in the matter. It was maintained that a prima facie case could be made out, and it was submitted that if his lordship thought a further adjournment for a month was desirable, in order to give reasonable time, and that then a warrant should issue, would be content. He (Mr. Besley) would, under these circumstances, have no objection to adjourn the application that the process of the Court should be enforced in the ordinary way. The Lord Mayor said that when he granted the summons he had no idea that civil proceedings had been taken to recover the money. He had found that part of the sum advanced had been recovered. The security had not been taken, or the title investigated in the ordinary manner. Papers had not been placed before the borrower showing that a criminal act would be founded upon them, in the regular way. It was most exceptional to come to the Mansion House under such circumstances and ask for a warrant. He had no objection, however, to adjourn the application for a month, would not undertake to say what he should do when it was again renewed. Mr. Besley said that part of the money had been recovered by other persons than the complainant upon the collateral security of the bill of exchange. The result of the action was disclosed upon the face of the information. He (Mr. Besley) was not going to retreat from the position he had taken that there was a primd facie case for the Marquis to answer, and that he had made a false representation, and so obtained the cheque for the money; £1,500 of it had been recovered

by the holders of the bills, and not by Mr. Nicholson himself. The application was ad-

M. GAMBETTA:

A correspondent signing himself "D. M."
rites to the Times:—It is with some surin the Times of the 7th inst., containing, among other singular assertions, the following:—"In ten years M. Gambetta has shown a self-control the parallel for which may be vainly sought in the past. At any moment M. Gambetta could have snatched at supreme power and acquired it." Surely your correspondent must have forgotten contemporary history. Why, every one knows that after M. Gambetta's reign at Tours and Bordeaux in 1870-71 he was supplanted for many years by M. Thiers, who even went the length of As to M. Gambetta having power, either by himself, or by the force of a majority in the Chamber of Deputies, or by public opinion, to acquire supreme power between 1871 and 1875, it is absolutely absurd, it being well-known that he had even difficulty during that nevied to majority in the presidence. period to maintain the position of the leader of the Opposition. It was only when, under of the Opposition. It was only when, under M Mahon, an attempt at a coup d'Etat was about to be made that M. Gambetta's celebrated saying of "Il faut so soumettre ou se démettre" brought him prominently to the fore again, and since then he has slowly, but surely, worked himself up to his present position. Your correspondent speaks in vulgar terms, which I need not repeat, of the abuse levelled at M. Gambetta in Paris, Berlin, and London; but surely in this respect he does not differ from any other prominent statesman, either here or abroad. Are not M. de Bismarck and Mr. Gladstone pro-minent instances of such? Moreover, a man who has hurled unmeasured abuse upon his political opponents, as M. Gambetta has frequently done, must naturally expect that his own turn will come—and it has come. Then your correspondent alludes to the appoint-ments recently made by M. Gambetta. I will not enter upon their merits, as that is purely a question for Frenchmen; but as I have watched M. Gambetta's career since 1870 and a good portion of it while in France, I do say that his nature is that of a dictator, and that it will be very difficult for him to free himself -as patriotic statesmen should do-of this his prominent failing. I have seen him at Bordeaux in 1871 when M. Jules Simon came with power from the Government at Paris to displace him-why, M. Simon was nowhere I might quote other instances, but fear trespassing on your space. M. Gambetta is a clever and able man, using every passing event for the purpose of consolidating his personal power, and he will continue to do so till overthrown, in my opinion, by an act of his own and not by the power of his oppo-

CONGRESS OF FRENCH TEACHERS. By unanimous agreement of the scientific

and literary section of the Societé Nationale Française, at their sitting on Nov. 12 last, an association was constituted under the title, Société Nationale des Professeurs de Francaise en Angleterre. The short space of six weeks has been busily filled by such active preparations for a congress in London as give ample proof that the adherents of the newlyformed association are thoroughly in earnest Encouraged by the warm approval and ready help of their leading compatriots, more than a hundred teachers of the French language opened the first proceedings of this society by a meeting on Thursday in the great hall of received as guests by M. Henri Bué, French master of the school, who, as one of the honorary secretaries, has taken a very active part in the prelimniary arrangements. Briefly, the objects of the society are to elevate in the United Kingdom the stadard of instruction in the French language and literature, and, practically, to create among the native pro-fessors, engaged in England, means and opportunities of cultivating personal relations of amity. It is hoped that in time the transactions which are immediately contemplated may lead to the foundation of a retreat for aged or disabled teachers, pensions, and succour in case of need. As we have already stated, the presidency has been accepted by M. Victor Hugo. Thursday's meeting, with M. Antonin Roche, in the chair, commenced with the reading of letters from allies and well-wishers of the movement, who have been unable to attend its opening. M. Victor Hugo, of course, had something to say in his most hopeful vein of the good that is likely to arise, from this prothe good that is likely to arise, from this pro-motion of a closer intimacy between the speakers of languages dignified by Shake-speare and Molière. Equally encouraging words came from M. Paul Bert, M. Challemel-Lacour, M. Renan, M. Louis Blanc, M. Alexandre Dumas, M. Eugène Labiche, M. A. Naquet, M. Edmond About, M. Auguste Brochet, and M. Jean Mace. M. Roche then delivered his opening discourse. M. George Petilleau, president of the Scientific and Literary Section of the French National Society, read the statutes of the new association, prefacing them with some remarks of considerable interest, in the course of which he mentioned that only about one-third of the teachers of French in England are natives of France; and that many English boys and girls learn the French language from man, Flemish, Dutch, and Scandinavian linguists, the accent thus acquired being inera-dicable in after life. An address by M. Buisson, delegate from the Ministry of Public Instruction, came next, and shortly afterwards the meeting adjourned.

THE EXTRAORDINARY CONFESSION. Dr. W. F. Warrington, of Congleton, who attended the farmer, Isaac Brooks, whose recent death-bed confession in connection with the outrages alleged to have been inflicted upon himself, by men now undergoing terms penal servitude, has attracted so much attention, sends to the Lancet a medical account of the case, containing the following description of the deceased. After the first act of mutilation, Dr. Warrington writes:— "The man soon recovered his usual state of health, which was not robust, owing to valvular diseases of the heart since he had rheumatic fever fourteen years ago. He was a man well known to me, of eccentric habits, close, and reserved. He was fond of musiand of reading, often studying an oldfashioned Encyclopedia, and took a pride in using long words. Since his death, I have heard that he sometimes consulted fortunetellers, and was guided by them in some of his actions. He had rather pleasing manners for a man in his station of life, and was very deliberate in his conversation and actions. These habits and manners, in addition to his being fond of dressing well when he went to market, etc., made him a somewhat conspicuous character among the plain old-fashioned farmers and labourers in the lonely hill district in which he lived. They considered he wished to make himself superior to what he really was, and was not a

favourite among them. After the second inquiry, Dr. Warrington says: "As on my first visit. so again, I placed before him his real condition, and the danger he was in living in such a solitary situation five miles from medical aid. He reluctantly consented to accompany me to the Congleton Cottage Hospital, as his general condition, owing to the hamorrhage, was serious. I must observe that it was his ticular desire that no one should know of this second attack. He did not wish to be exposed to the world as having again suffered injury. It was not his wish that the firs attack should have been revealed to the world; he would rather have kept it quiet But when it was known he thought he might as well speak the truth about it at last, and tell who the men were. But had not the police bothered him so much, he would never

have done so. He was sorry for the men; the had been punished too heavily. If he had hi time to go over again he would not have told about them. He sent for me on Dec. 26, 1881. He was then very anæmic, with slight congestion of the lungs and dropsy. I informed his friends he would not live many days. Early in the morning of Dec. 31, after being much disturbed mentally, he confessed to a farmer and Wesleyan local preacher, named Harrison, that the two men and Clowes were innocent of the crime for and Clowes were innocent of the crime for which they were punished, and he wished them to be liberated. A few hours after signing this confession in presence of his mother and brother, who appeared greatly astonished at it, he died. To the hospital authorities, and to the police, he would never vouchsafe the slightest information. He never would say whether he had any idea of the identity of any of the men who attacked him. He was in the habit of denying, when asked, that any second injury had oc-

when asked, that any second injury had oc-curred to him. He had an illegitimate child living with him, of which he was the father. The mother of this child died eight years ago, and was a sister of the defendant in the assize trial, Clowes. Brooks was fondly at-tached to the child, but it was advanced at the trial that Brooks' relations with Clowes' sister might be the motive for Clowes planning and carrying the outrage on Brooks as a sort of revenge. The possibility of the injuries being self-inflicted has been made a strong point in the case, therefore I have been the more particular in describing the man

Commenting on this case, the Lancet says:
We are indebted to Dr. Warrington, of Congleton, for the courtesy of a communica-tion embodying a very interesting account of the medical aspects of the case of the man Brooks, whose confession has recently excited so much attention. It seems from the sur-gical details of the case that the injury inflicted was of a very simple nature, and evidently effected by some person familiar with the operation performed on cattle. At first Brooks declared that he could not recognise the men who, as he alleged, committed the assault in December, 1879. His identifying the prisoners was an afterthought. Later in the case he stated that he should have kept the matter quiet 'had not the police bothered him so much.' The most remarkable feature, however, in the case is the fact that in Feb., 1881, the man pro-fessed to have had another attack made upon him of precisely the same nature. On this occasion the injury inflicted was, as far as could be gathered by the surgeon who was called in to see him (Dr. Warrington), very similar to that surgeined primarile. called in to see nim (Dr. Warrington), very similar to that sustained primarily. This time Brooks stated that four men had attacked him! There cannot be the slightest doubt in the mind of any one reading Dr. Warrington's statement that the case was throughout one of self-mutilation from insanity. The only marvel must be that when the act was repeated the Home Secretary was not at once informed and the unjustly convicted men liberated. Looked at from the medical standpoint, the case was certainly never clearly before the Court. As Dr. Warrington points out, 'no questions were asked,' on the of the defence, 'as to the man's habits!'
These were in themselves suggestive, Brooks being 'of eccentric habits, close, and reserved.' Altogether the story would seem to have been one of the most equivocal character throughout, and this may be taken as a typical and striking example of a class of cases which must always be liable to misconception, to the lasting discredit of justice, so lo lawyers think they can appraise the real value of medical evidence, and there is no medical tribunal to which to appeal in matters of doubt.

THE TWO MISSING BAILIFFS.

A Dublin correspondent wrote on Thurs-day night :—The fate of Lord Ardilaun's balliff and his nephew, which has been a matter of doubt for a week, was this morning reported to have been cleared up by the discovery of their bodies chained together in Lough Mask. This report, however, proves to be without foundation; but their continued absence leads to a strong belief that they have been murdered. On the morning of the 2d January, Joseph Huddy, who had been for twentyfive years bailiff on the property of Lord Ardilaun, near Cong, County Mayo, and also Petty Sessions summons server for the district, left Cong on a car belonging to Mr. John Clarke, of that place, for the purpose of serving ejectment processes on some of Lord Ardilaun's tenants in the Clonbur and Curnamora district, in which Lord Mountmorres was assassinated. He was accompanied by his nephew, quite a lad. On reaching the village of Cloughpatrick, the bailiff and his nephew got off the car and went into a bye path for the purpose of making service of the processes. He di-rected the driver to wait for them. The district around there is very wild and mountainous. After waiting for some hours the car-driver became alarmed at the continued absence of the two persons, and he there-fore drove into Clonbur and informed the police that he feared the bailiff and his nephew had met with foul play. The con-stabulary at once set out to look for them. A man named Kerrigan, whose house is adjacent to Lough Mask, was arrested next morning on suspicion, the belief being entertained that the two bailiffs had been murdered and their bodies flung into the lake. Close to Kerrigan's house a bag belonging to Huddy, and in which he carried the legal documents, was found. On an examination of the house the police found traces of blood on the walls, on clothes, and on spade handles. Mr. Dennehy, resident magistrate, and Constabulary Inspector Owens at once organised a diligent search for the bodies of the men. On Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday the police continued their labours in the mountains. Sub-Inspector Smyth and a party of sixty police were specially detailed for the investigation. The people in the district are chiefly an Irish-speaking population, and they did not at all seem disposed to give any in-formation. On Saturday Mr. Smyth obtained the services of two bloodhounds from Ashford House, Cong, but no clue of the whereabouts of the missing men could be obtained. It then became the general impression that then became the general impression that the bodies were conveyed to the lake, and thrown in. The lake is of large extent, and a very dangerous one, and it was only on Sunday the Constabulary were enabled to drag it, on account of the previous rough weather. Three boats, each supplied with proper grappling implements, have since been making a thorough search. Sub Largette. proper grapping implements, have since been making a thorough search. Sub-Inspectors Smyth and M Donald, of Clonbur, supervised the dragging, and also the searches at the various islands. No trace of the missing men, however, has yet been found. There can be little doubt that the bailiffs have been murdered. Ten days have elapsed since they set out on their mission, and no tidings whatever have been gleaned of them since.

DISTRESS AMONG THE CLERGY .- A meeting of clergy was held at Worcester on Thursday to consider measures for relieving the day to consider measures for relieving the exceptional distress existing among many clergymen in the diocese owing to the falling off of incomes derived from glebe land brought about by agricultural depression. The Bishop of Worcester, who presided, the Dean (Lord' Alwyne Compton), and other speakers af-firmed that there were many cases of urgent want where the income of clergymen pended upon profit from their glebes. After discussion it was resolved to raise a fund for the relief of clergymen suffering through agricultural depression, to be distributed by the Diocesan Clergymen's Widows' and

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LONDON, JANUARY 14-15, 1882.

THE SITUATION IN GERMANY.

The Rescript of the German Emperor, issued in his quality of King of Prussia, appears to have caused great alarm and consternation in Germany. It is regarded by all outside Court circles, and possibly some within them, as laying down dangerous doctrines for the present, and threatening worse things for the future. Its two main propositions are that the acts of the Government are not the acts of the Minister who countersigns them, but of the Sovereign who orders them; and that officials at election time are bound, under pain of dismissal, to support, or at least not to actively oppose, the policy which the Sovereign recommends to the country. The German Parliament has begun by asserting its independence in a curious way. It has passed, by a very large majority, the second reading of a Bill respecting the Act whereby ecclesiastics are bound to make submission to the State before entering on their offices. The Falk Laws are purely Prussian enactments; but this was an Imperial Act, and the Imperial Parliament can therefore repeal it with the assent of the Federal Council. The majority was made up not only of the Clericals, the Poles, and others, who would be sure to vote for any measure giving greater latitude and security to ecclesiastics, but also of a large contingent of advanced Liberals, who were opposed on principle to restrictions on religious opinion, and a small contingent of Socialist democrats, who were opposed on principle to any restriction on anything. Old-fashioned Liberals vote against the measure on the usual ground that freedom must not be conceded to the enemies of freedom. There was a reasonable ground for the difference of conscientious opinion in the ranks of the Liberal Party, and the respective sections voted as they thought right. This was immediately seized on by the critics devoted to Prince Bismarck as a fresh proof of the incurable divisions and quarrels of the Liberal Party. It may, on the other hand, be taken much more reasonably as a proof that the German people is seriously interesting itself in its own affairs, and that honourable men are prepared to vote in accordance with the opinions by advocating which they secured their election. What will be the fate of the Bill remains to be seen; but there can

be no doubt that the action of the Parlia-

ment constitutes a new and very important

step in the constitutional struggle which is

now agitating Germany .- Saturday Review.

The Spectator is of opinion that the "Royal Rescript" published in Berlin on Saturday evening does not involve a revolution, but in advising its issue Prince Bismarck has entered on that broad road which leads direct to coups d'état. An immense effort is being made to show that the Rescript contains no new doctrine, and only reasserts the central truth of the Prussian Constitution; and there is a sense in which this theory is partially, though only partially correct. There is no doubt that the Constitution in Prussia was intended to be monarchical, in a sense in which the English Constitution, at all events in modern times, has not been monarchical; that it left an immense place for the King; that he was intended to remain head of the Executive; and that, in particular, he was allowed full power to select, appoint, and replace his own Ministers. But it is no less true that the King was expected to act on the advice of such Ministers as he and Parliament could both accept, and that the policy of the kingdom, though no doubt immensely influenced by the King's will, was in theory to be theirs, and not his only. For the Constitution, as the Rescript admits, made the King irresponsible, made Ministers responsible, and rendered the signature of a Minister indispensable to every act. To make Ministers responsible for decrees which they could in no way control, is an injustice which not even the framers of Continental Constitutions could have intended to commit; and consequently, for 31 years the King, though, no doubt, most powerful, has been sheltered by his servants from Parliamentary or popular attack. In declaring, therefore, that "the right of the King to conduct the Government and policy of Prussia, according to his own diseretion," is limited, but not abolished, by the Constitution, and that the necessity for a Minister's signature and the responsibility of Ministers do not impair the directness of the King's action, the author of the Rescript gives a new and, pro tanto an absolutist interpretation to the Consti-

M. GAMBETTA AND THE FRENCH

CONSTITUTION. Saturday Review is uncertain whether M. Gambetta prefers two Chambers to one; but he has shown on more than one occasion that he correctly appreciates 'the special connection which exists between the communes and the Senate. The real reason, apparently, that moves him to destroy the Constitution in this particular has nothing to do with the manner in which the popular Chamber is elected M. Gambetta has made up his mind that he will not govern France unless the Chamber of Deputies is elected by departments, instead of by arrondissements; and he sees in the revision of the Constitution the only means of getting what he wants. Why there should be no other the science of toxicology within the last slight. But the tendency at Davos has been

TERMS: PARIS—A single journal, 8 sous; a week, ?fr. 50c.; a fortnight, 5fr.; one month, 10fr.; three months, 28fr. not introduce a bill to establish the scrutin de liste without subjecting the Constitution to revision, in order to accomplish what might equally be accomplished without such revision. The explanation may possibly be that, as it is not proposed to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies, there is no reason for introducing a bill to change the distribution of the constituencies so long before a general election. But as revision was the cry with which M. Gambetta went to the country last autumn, there is a technical consistency in giving immediate effect to it, even though the ostensible reason for doing so has disappeared. Revision is to be resorted to in reference to the mode of electing the Senate, nominally, because it was part of M. Gambetta's programme under a quite different state of things, but really because M. Gambetta wants to make the Constitution define for the first time the mode of electing the Chamber of Deputies.

The Spectator considers that M. Gambetta having told the country that he could not work fairly without the scrutin de liste, and as the country, willing or unwilling, accepted his terms, he is in the right in insisting on them. That he will carry his Revision cannot be doubted. France did not insist on scrutin de liste, but it voted permission for it as clearly as ever the United Kingdom voted permission for an Irish Land Act. It may be angry, under the apprehension that dissolution will follow revision; but the effect of that anger will be to induce it to vote so carefully ' straight" that the excuse for dissolution will never come. That this is personal government, rather than real Parliamentary government, may be true, and the Spectator dreads scrutin de liste for that very reason; but still it is personal government terminable in a moment at the will of the electors.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND EGYPT.

The Economist, after mentioning the respective objects of England and France in Egypt, declares that if the joint protectorate should once take the form of a joint protectorate-it is difficult to see how combined military action can lead in the long run to any other result—the irreconcileable divergence between the aims and interests of the two Powers will soon declare itself, and the worst consequences

may be apprehended :--The truth is that England and France are in Egypt in a radically false position, and yet they can neither retreat nor go forwards, except at the risk of precipitating a catastrophe. Of all expedients that could be devised for securing and retaining influence in a foreign country, the expedient of an indirect financial control is probably the worst, and, bad as it must be in any case, its evils are more than doubled when its exercise is vested jointly in | to tell them that they are free men, and can Powers whose objects and methods differ so widely as do those of England and France. Yet now that the control is once established, to abandon it hastily would be to deliver over Egypt to anarchy, or still worse to Turkish domination. The situation, full of peril and embarrassment as it is, is one which we have created for ourselves, and we have only our-selves to thank if there is no immediate escape from it. Our best hope for the future would seem to lie in gaining the friendship of the better elements in the Nationalist party, which may in time provide the nucleus of a healthy and independent Government.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF LONDON.

The Spectator believes there is something in the understood resolve of the Cabinet to reform the Government of London this year which appeals strongly to the imagination. It is such a gallant attempt to do good, without promise or hope of pay! No great class particularly wants the metropolis to be vivified, and a great many strong interests have reason to dread any

innovation :-The plan proposed, so far as it has oozed out, will conciliate the abler men, being substantially an extension of the City, with a better suffrage, but with two houses, a Court of Aldermen, and a Court of Deputies, over the whole metropolitan area, but the City Ring will fear an ultimate loss of power. Hitherto, even Government has shrunk from touching them, and the federated municipalities which look up to them as defenders of selfgovernment. The vestries, with their thousand dependants, will be all alarmed, indignant or doubtful; while Conservatives of all kinds will apprehend by instinct that the waking of popular light in the huge city may be fatal to the ascendancy they always claim, but did not even under Lord Beaconsfield possess. There may be resistance, too, from the great nobles whose fortunes are derived from their London ground-rents, and who entertain a conviction, groundless, as we be-lieve, that the equalisation of rates, which must follow or accompany any reform, will affect their incomes. And at the same time, the general population, the millions of this province covered with houses," which we call London, are hardly aware of the value of reform. There is but one objection to the unification of London under a single body of two Houses, wih a regular executive, and with the administration of all departments, from the schools to the streets and the water -with the rights, in fact, of a Birmingham municipality-which is worth serious discussion. It is a very great power which is sud-denly to be called into being, and may it not be too great? May not London, like Paris, be too strong for the good order of the country? That is the true argument which has delayed the creation of London so long, and it is neither unreasonable nor out of place.

THE WIMBLEDON POISONING CASE.

The coroner's jury have come to the same conclusion as the police magistrate, and decided that there is a prima facie case for Dr. G. H. Lamson to answer in respect of the death of his young brother-in-law, Percy Malcolm John :-

No other result was possible. The cause of the poor boy's death was abundantly clear. He died from aconite poisoning. The physio-logical proof of this is complete. His death followed almost immediately on the visit of Dr. Lamson. It has been proved that Dr. Lamson had purchased aconite, and that aconite was found in some of the preparations which he had given to his brother-in-law for medicinal purposes. The most reasonable deduction from these facts is that they were due, not to coincidence, but design. When, moreover, it was proved that the boy had been ill on a former occasion after an interview with Dr. Lamson, and when it was shown that the latter had a powerful motive for wishing his death, the inference from all the circumstances that the onus should be thrown upon him of establishing his innocence is irresistible. He may succeed in doing so, and there can be no doubt that every help which science and legal ability can afford for the purpose will be at his command. In the meantime, there is one eminently satisfactory aspect of the case. The evidence adduced in the inquiries before the coroner and the magistrate show what an immense advance has been made in

we seem to have passed from a region of conjecture to one of almost positive demonstration. If it is alarming to know that onesixteenth part of a grain of aconite is sufficient to kill a man, it is reassuring to learn on the same authority that the two-hundredths part of a grain of that subtle poison can be in-fallibly detected after it has wrought its deadly effect on the system. The coroner's jury ap-pended to their verdict an expression of sympathy with Mr. Bedbrook, the principal of the school where Mr. John died. Such is the perversity of human nature that Mr. Bed-brook is certain to suffer in public opinion from the occurrence of this tragedy at his house. It is right, therefore, to point out that there is not the smallest ground for imputing fault to him. No possible care on his part could have protected his unfortunate pupil, and he deserves and will have the sympathy of all right-thinking people.—Globe.

COMPENSATION FOR WRONGFUL CONVICTION.

Referring to the extraordinary confession of the man Brooks, declaring the innocence of two men who have already served a long term of penal servitude for an attack upon him, which is now shown never to have been made, the Daily Telegraph remarks that the question of practical interest now is whether anything can be done to compensate these unfortunate

men for all their hardships:—
To indemnify them fully would be impossible. But the stigma attaching to them is wiped off already, and there remains an act of generosity which ought certainly to be performed without loss of time. Pecuniary compensation must be awarded and every effort made to start the victims again in at least as good a position as they occupied before. For, if justice sometimes errs, when the error is discovered it is only common fairness that the injury inflicted should be repaired in some slight degree. Accidents, it is said, will happen in the best administration of the law, as the cases of Galley and Habron notoriously exemplify, though there is no reason to complain of the number of mistakes made by criminal law courts. The law is a great machine, with a myriad separate wheels and cranks, and axles, and now and then some part of the mechanism is apt to go wrong. This is the percent-age of failure which always accompanies any vast and ordinarily satisfactory system; but the very rarity of wrong convictions is a forcible argument in favour of compensating the victims of them when they do occur. The expense per annum would be comparatively small, and in the case of Johnson and Clowes the State is spared the cost of keeping the men in prison for eight years. It can, therefore, afford to be reasonably generous. If we think what a terrible punishment it must have been to these poor men to find themselves arraigned for a crime never committed, condemned by a jury of their countrymen, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude, we should not feel much inclined to haggle over the matter of money compensation. Merely go about their business, is not enough. It would be unworthy of a wealthy and generous people. Sir William Harcourt will understand that the precedent of substantial indemnification is not a dangerous one, simply for the reason that mistaken convictions are of exceedingly rare occurrence. Even if the State were called upon to pay to the extent of £10,000 a-year in compensation to convicted innocents, the loss would not be greater than the Exchequer might be able to bear.

DRAWBACKS TO ALPINE SUNSHINE. Mr. John Addington Symonds sends the following from Dayos to the Pall Mall

Four years' experience has not shaken my belief in the value of a high mountain climate for certain classes of pulmonary invalids; though I am bound to say that the hopes l entertained and publicly expressed after a few months' residence in Davos have been considerably damped by what I have since observed. At the same time this long experiwhich an Alpine cure can be expected have been steadily neglected here. When I first knew the place it was a little village, furnished with a few hotels for the reception of strangers. The life was primitively simple, the air quite pure, the houses far apart and of moderate dimensions. Since then it has rapidly expanded, and the expansion has brought the following bad consequences:1. There is now a perceptible cloud of smoke always hanging over the valley, shifting with the wind, but not escaping, and thickening the air to a considerable extent. This smoke arises mainly, doubtless, from chimneys; but it reminds one of the breath of many hundreds of consumptive patients aggregated at close quarters. 2. The houses, which have sprung up like mushrooms, are built with so little attention to the requirements of a sanatorium that the main promenade is more than half in shadow 3. The drainage of the place is infamous. One portion of the village carries its sewage down into a marsh, where it stagnates. Another portion is drained into the stream, which in winter is a shallow, open, iceclogged ditch, exhaling a frozen vapour. To walk by the course of this river is now not only disagreeable but dangerous. The largest hotel frequented by the English has a horrible effluvium arising from the cesspool beneath its windows. In the largest hotel frequented by the Germans a species of low fever has recently declared itself. 4. The social amusements of a watering-place have been greatly developed. Dances, concerts, theatres, bazaars, private theatricals, picnics, are multiplied. Some entertainments of the sort are no doubt not only necessary, but also beneficial. Yet it must be remembered that the peculiar severity of Alpine winter, the peculiar conditions under which consumptive people meet together here, crowded into rooms artificially heated with stoves, render all but the simplest forms of social gathering very dangerous.

The only way of averting some serious catastrophe from a health-resort which has deserved popularity, and the principle of which is excellent—the only way of preventing Davos from being converted into an illdrained, over-crowded, gas-lighted centre of cosmopolitan disease and second-rate gaiety -is to develop rival places of the same type. The valley of Davos proper, from Davos Kulm or Wolfgang down to Frauenkirch, may be said to be already exhausted for building purposes. This valley is so narrow and so much enclosed with mountains that the further development of any of its hamlets is certain to injure the whole neighbourhood. Its torrent is too thin and hampered in its course to act as a common conduit-pipe for drainage. Its boasted absence of wind causes the addition of smoke from chimneys or of exhalations from cesspools to be immediately felt in all parts of the district, It Davos is to remain what it calls itself—a Luft-Kur-Ort, or "Health resort of sun and air "-it must learn rather to contract than to expand. I have touched upon some of the obvious dangers which at present threaten Davos. I might have gone into more alarming problems, and have raised the question whether the accumulation of sick people in big hotels, which are really consumptive hospitals, though not subject to the precautions used in consumptive hospi-tals, is not attended with the gravest disadvantages. So long as the hotels remained small, and there were only a few of them in the place, the peril from this source was

quarter of a century. Comparing the evidence given on the trials of Palmer and Dove with that which we have lately read. small a space as possible, and to build new inns at the doors of the old ones. All this is done in a climate where winter renders double windows and stove heated buildings indispensable. All this is done for a society where the dying pass their days and nights in closest contiguity with those who have some chance of living! Within the last few weeks two cases have come under my notice, one that of a native of Davos attached to the service of the visitors, another that of an English girl, who have both contracted lung disease itself, owing, as I believe, to the conditions of life as they have recently been developed here. Should English doctors continue to send phthisical patients to Davos in such numbers as to encourage further building and crowding, they will not only destroy a very useful sanatorium, but will be guilty of serious neglect of their first duties to the sick folk who consult them. The remedy is to establish a new health-resort of the same nature. But this new place must, for reasons above given, not be founded in the valley of That is already at least sufficiently occupied; and Davos has enough in the future to do with organizing its existing accommodation. It only requires a little patience, a study of localities, and some spirit of adventure to create a rival which would save Davos from ruin and put profits into the pockets of speculators. Are not St. Maritz and Wiesen

FASHIONABLE NEWS. The Prince of Wales and a distinguished party had a fine morning's shooting on the estate of Lord Stamford at Bradgate Park, Leicester, on Friday. His Royal Highness, accompanied by Lord Stamford left the hall soon after four o'clock, amid great cheering, the tenants having assembled in great numbers to witness the departure. The streets of Leicester were profusely decorated and bril-liantly illuminated. The Prince, who rode in an open carraiage, was greeted with tremeudous cheering by the vast multitude of spectators lining the streets. Hs R yal Highness bowed repeatedly in response. The toyatrain left Leicester amid great cheering, and arrived at St. Pancras in the evening. Stamford and the Mayor of Leicester have been requested to convey to the inhabitants of the district the gratification of his Royal Highness at the exceedingly hearty and spontaneous reception he had met with.

The accouchement of the Duchess of Connaught, who is at present residing at Bagshot Mansion, Surrey, is daily expected. The Lord Chancellor arrived in town on Friday from Blackmore, his seat near Petersfield. His lordship is expected to return to

Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote and Miss Northcote have been the guests during the last day or two of the Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter, at Burghley House, Stamford. Sir Richard Malins has in every way slightly

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

An application was made in the Dublin Queen's Bench Division on Friday to the Lord Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Barry for a mandamus to quash the sealed order of the Local Government Board dismissing Dr. Kenny, now a " suspect" in Kimainham Gaol, from his office of surgeon of the North Dublin Workhouse. Affidavits were read setting forth the services of Dr. Kenny, and urging that he should not be dismissed unless he had shown unfitness for his duties. After some argument the case was ordered to stand

The fund for the sustenance of the political prisoners now amounts to £10,500 Dis-satisfaction is, it is stated, felt among the suspects in Kilmainham as to their treatment by the Land League. Out of the eighty-two prisoners in that gaol, sixty-six have refused o accept any but the prison fare, but Messrs. Parnell, Dillon, Brennan, Dr. Kenny, and twelve others receive one meal a day suppled out of the fund. Some of the prisoners are very indignant at an appeal being made for their food while such large sums have been received from America, of the disposal of

which no account is given. The Nation says a friend who recently had an interview with Mr. Parnell in Kilmain ham Prison asked him how his own tenants were acting as regards the No Rent movement. eminent suspect, smiling pleasantly, replied that " they were standing to the ma-

nifesto in splendid style."
On Wednesday night two policemen, who were watching at Clashaduff, near Drimoleague, Cork, heard the report of firearms, and saw a man armed with a gun. The man, who had apparently discharged his gun near a house for the purpose of intimidation, escaped, but left his gun behind him. On the same night, a tarmer named M Carthy, residing at Ballymacroom, was dragged out of his bed by a party of armed and disguised men, who subjected him to gross ill-treatment. M Carthy was suspected of having paid his

At the Cork assizes on Friday several perons who had been convicted of riot at Abbeyfeale, when a land agent and a bailiff were beaten and stripped and two policemen were assaulted, were brought up for sentence. Cornelius Donoghue and John Cullinane were sentenced to five years' penal servitude. One man was sentenced to eighteen months imprisoment, and five others to twelve months' imprisonment each.

Four more arrests were made in the neighbourhood of Millstreet, county Cork on Friday, bringing up the number of arrests in this locality to twenty-three.

ECHOES.

It is a very sad thing to be utterly desperate to find that the little Pandora's box of Tunbridge Wells ware, privately presented to one many years since, and from which so many evils and distempers have issued, has disintegrated with the dry rot, and that even Hope has fallen through. Yes; I am, at this time of writing, altogether hopeless of being able to persuade those disastrous personages, the writers of political leading articles in the newspapers, to use an obvious English equivalent for the French word "Cloture."

The odious word cloture-I call it odious since we have the sonorous English equiva-lent ready to our hand—is quoted in the St. James's Gazette of Jan. 9, some half a dozen times. There is a leading article entitled "The Cloture" in the World of this week. I have seen it quoted in the Standard and many other papers ; and between this and the opening of Parliament the political leader writers, all over the country, will be "talking the leg off an iron pit," so to speak, about "la clôture;" and McJingo, that fervid antiministerialist, will be vehemently declaring, at the annual dinner of the West Clodshire

Clottoor in this country."
"It is always considered," wrote Sydney Smith, "as a piece of impertinence in England, if a man with less than two or three thousand a year has any opinions at all on important subjects." There it is. If I had three thousand a year; if I were Professor Mouldymugg, F.R.S., or the Rev. Grymes Wapshott, D.D., or Mr. Nimbleninepence, M.P., or even My Lord Tomnoddy, I might persuade people to listen to me on the marter of "closure" against "cloture." As it is, I am Nobody, and Hopeless. Indeed, I may esteem myself fortunate if I escape being branded as "sensational" in protesting against the attempted foisting on our language by the political leader-monger of the clumsily new-fangled word "cloure." The Italians have adopted the system; but they disdain to borrow the word from the French. Words; idle words. We have to thank

vention of a brand new compound English word. What do you say to a "non-providentable-bodied case"? I read of such a 'case" in the report of a recent meeting of the beneficent institution in question. After this, what becomes of the briar-wood-pipesmoking, bull-terrier-keeping, knifeboard-ofomnibus-patronising, music-hall-ditty-humming, Gaiety-restaurant young man; or the American "shinning-round-the-free-lunches, killikillick-chewing, cocktail-imbibing, drawpoker-playing, non-law-abiding, scallawag-hoodlum cuss"? The non-provident-able-bodied case is, I gather from the Charity Organisation report, a labouring man able to work, but who has got no work to do. He has been "non-provident"-that is to say, he has neglected to become a Forester, an Odd Fellow, a Druid, or an Ancient Briton; o invest in Consols, or make deposits in the Post-Office Savings' Bank. Away with the "non-provident-able-bodied case" to the workhouse! There let him crack stones and pick oakum.

A charming Christmas gift comes to me from Leipsic, in the form of a handsomely bound little tome, being the two-thousandth volume of the world-famed Tauchnitz Collection of British Authors. What a cheerful. kindly benefactor to English tourists abroad has been the Baron Bernard Christian von Tauchnitz. Since '41, I think, has the Tauchnitz series been in course of publication. "At that time there was no international copyright; but Herr Tauchnitz re-solved to obtain the sanction of the authors, and pay them for permission to include their productions in his series." Nobly has the House of Tauchnitz abided by its upright resolve. Most of the people of the pen have tasted the Tauchnitz blood, in the shape of handsome cheques; and my brethren and sisters will, perhaps, agree with me when I say that when, in the fullness of time, the Herr Baron is gathered to his fathers there could scarcely be a better epitaph for inscription on his mausoleum than the one (slightly altered) placed by Mr. Ruskin on the tomb of his father, who was a wine merchant. The Tauchnitz epitaph should read :-- Although a Publisher,

A Generous Man.
The two-thousandth Tauchnitz is Professor
Morley's "English Literature in the Reign of Victoria: with a Glance at the Past; " but the charm of the book is the copious collection of facsimiles of the autographs of British and American authors who have had dealings with the House of Tauchnitz. Here shall you mark the bold feminine "fist" of the beautiful Countess of Blessington (1843), the flowing but magisterial "firma" of Miss M. E. Braddon (1866); the delicate Italian hand of "E. L. Bulwer" (1843); "Edward Bulwer Lytton" (1844), and the slightly tremulous "Lytton" (1868). Miss Rhoda Broughton "looms large" under the date of 1881; "B. Disraeli" writes a big, legal, engrossing-looking hand in 1844, and is big and bold, but deviates from the horizontal line in 1831; Mrs. Frances from the horizontal line in 1831; Mrs. Frances Cashel Hoey seems to have been studying German caligraphy in 1872, so narrowly parallel are her up and down strokes; "Ouida" is simply and gracefully legible in 1860; Caroline Norton flourishes too much in 1871 ; Charles Reade in 1856 bears down upon you like some great Spanish galleon; and the be one of the signatures, so sternly resolute is it, to the death warrant of Charles the First. Thomas Carlyle is almost illegible in 1865; E. C. Grenville Murray is diplomatically clear in 1872; and W. M. Thackeray (1857)-in his cursive and oblique, not his horizontal Anglo-Greek character-would do honour to a copper-plate engraver of visiting cards. "Anne Thackeray" in 1875, developed into Anne Ritchie in 1879, quite overpowers, caligraphically, her illustrious sire.-G. A. S. in the Illustrated London News.

THE ENGLISH SLAVE BOYS' CASE .- A Warrant Granted .- Mr. C. M. Barker renewed his application at Bow-street on Saturday for a warrant against Hadj Ben Mahomed, the proprietor of the Ben Zoug Zoug troupe of acrobats, under the child-stealing section of the Act 24 and 25 Vict., cap. 100. He based his application on the information of Mrs. vdc, who stated that in 1873 she apprenticed her son, then aged eight, to Hadj Ben Viahomed, on the distinct understanding and agreement that the boy should not be taken out of England. In 1878 she heard that her son had been taken to Spain, and for three years she had heard nothing of him, and could not ascertain whether he was alive or dead. Mr. Flowers said he looked upon the indentures signed by the boys as void, as the boys ought to be capable of understanding what they were signing, and whether the deed was for their benefit or not. Mr. Barker said that he had personally investigated several cases, and in most of them it was found that the mothers had apprenticed their children owing to the dissolute charactheir children owing to the dissertion ters of their husbands and their inability to provide their children with homes. woman Ade having sworn to her information, Mr. Flowers granted a warrant.

MOTION TO COMMIT MR. CHATTERTON .- A motion was made on Friday, before Vice-Chancellor Bacon, on behalf of Mr. Jarmain, for an order committing Mr. Chatterton and his treasurer, Mr. Jennings, for opposing Mr. George Newman, the receiver appointed by the court, receiving the rents and profits of Sadler's Wells Theatre, and £5 out of the receipts of each performance, and preventing him performing his duties.—Counsel for the defendants said there was no necessity to discuss the matter now, as the theatre was closed He asked that the motion might stand over till next Friday, by which time he would have had an opportunity of answering the case. There was a complete answer to the case.—No opposition to this request was offered, and the motion was ordered to stand over till next Friday.

CHILDREN'S BALL AT THE MANSION HOUSE .-The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress enter-tained a large number of children at the Mansion House on Friday evening, the programme, which started with the announcement of a ball, including amusements of a varied character. The halls and rooms, which were brilliantly illuminated, for the most part by different forms of the electric light, prominence being given to the Crompton light, were the scene of the greatest efforts on the part of the children and their friends to do honour to the occasion. Costumes were not only varied, but much taste had been displayed in their selection. If any fault could be found it would be that too many invitations had been given, and dancing being rendered somewhat difficult; but members of the Common Council and City dignitaries had volunteered to help the juvenile dancers, and per-formed their task with zeal. One most amusing part of the entertainment in the intervals between the dancing was Professor Clarence's representation of the "Living Marionettes. With his head through a closely fitting curtain, pendant from the top of an elaborate Punch and Judy stand, he had attached to him a very small body, the limbs of which he cleverly worked, whilst, in various disguises, making comic speeches.

THE BRIBERY CONVICTIONS. - Mr. J. B. Edwards, of Deal, one of the solicitors who were sentenced to six months's imprisonment in connection with the recent prosecutions for bribery, was taken ill in Canterbury Prison, and his illness increased so much on Tuesday that an application was made to the Home Office that Dr. Quain, of Harley-street, should be allowed to visit him. stated, however, that it was against the rules of the Home Office for a private physician to see a prisoner; but, on account of the urgent representations made, Dr. Gover, the Me-dical Inspector of Prisons, went to Canterhe Charity Organisation Society for the in- | bury on Wednesday. The result of the consultation between him and the prison surgeon Mr. Reid, is that an order for the release o Mr. Edwards was sent to Canterbury on Friday morning, and he was subsequently set at liberty.

THE EXTRAORDINARY CONFESSION.—Release of the Imprisoned Men.—The two men, Johnson and Clowes, who were convicted for wounding Isaac Brooks, at Leek, Stafford-shire, were released from Millbank Prison on Friday, and arrived at Burslem the same

DEATH OF CANON ADDISON. - The Rev. Canon Addison, leading clergyman at New-castle and chairman of the School Board of that town, died on Friday. His age was 67 years.

FATAL EXPLOSION ON BOARD HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "TRIUMPH."-A despatch received at the Admiralty on Friday from Rear-Admiral Stirling, Commander-in-Chief on the Pacific Station, reports an explosion of some xerotine siccative on board his flagship the Triumph, which caused the death of William N. Foxon, able seaman; Thomas H. Davies, gunner, R. M.A.; and Charles Legg, gunner, R. M.A.; and wounded the following, viz., Frederick G. Pavett, private, R.M.L.I., and John Smith, painter, progressing satisfactorily; Alfred Kite, stoker; George Tribe, assistant sick berth attendant; Thomas Butler, ordinary seaman; Jack G. Sturt, able seaman; and James Williamson, able seaman, slightly. An officer on board, writing on the 27th November, states that the explosion occurred off Coquimbo, on the coast of Chili, on Tues-day, the 22nd November, at eight o'clock in the morning. The writer says :- "The material which exploded was stowed under the paint room, directly contrary to the Admiralty instructions. It appears that a man went there with a light, and he was literally blown to pieces. The hooks in the "sick bay" outside the paint room were wrenched out of the deck, and the men were thrown all over it. As I have said, one man was blown all to pieces, and the second who was killed was thirty-five yards off, his death resulting from concussion of the brain. The man who died yesterday (Saturday) afternoon sustained frightful injuries. Strange to say, the painter, who was actually inside the paint room, was only badly burned. At the time of the explosion, I was walking up and down on deck, and the band was playing "God Save the Queen" to the colours. It gave us all a terrible fright." The substance which caused the accident is commonly known as "patent driers," used in ironclads to prevent corrosion between the double-bottoms. The Triumpia is an iron steamship of 6,640 tons, carrying engines of 4,890-horse power, with an armament of fourteen guns. Her captain is Captain Albert H. Markham.

Science in Hospitals .- Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson writes to the Daily News in reply to a letter which had appeared in that journal criticising his conduct because a patient who was admitted under his care into the London Hospital was permitted to remain three days without active treatment that thus the lesson of cure might be made more instructive to the Mr. Hutchinson, after defending and explaining his treatment of the patient, says:—"Your correspondent goes so far as sign manual Katherine Saunders (1873) might | to extend some share of the blame which he awards to me to the medical man who sen the case into hospital, because I stated that he could have cured it himself, and that a main motive for the man's admission was that my students might see the cure." The poor man was in every way a gainer by being admitted into hospital; but even if he had secured nothing by his admission that he could not have had at home, Mr. Hutchinson still holds that Dr. Robinson deserves praise, and not blame, for his zeal in the cause of the education of the future race of medical men. He says :- "Your correspondent would appear to think the training of our family pracitioners a matter of but slight importance to the public, and that a znal for science is out of place in hospitals. The word 'science' in the present instance means nothing more than the correct knowledge of disease and how to cure it, and it means nothing less. We in the profession know that such knowledge comes only of quiet and patient observation, and we hold it so valuable when got that we are desirous to employ every legiti-mate opportunity for efficiently conveying it to others. Teaching in all its branches is undoubtedly one of the highest vocations of man, and the teaching of those who are to be the future healers of the community is surely one of the most important of them. It is far better to let a student see for himself than simply to tell him a thing. . . . The value of the cure in question was, I assert, increased a hundredfold to the community by the fact that it was done in public, while it was not one whit lessened to the patient. It is not the interests of 'science' which are at stake; it is not the interests of a profession; it is the interests of the community at large, for whose benefit science and the profession alike exist."

of clergy was held at Worcester on Thursday to consider measures for relieving the exceptional distress existing among many clergymen in the diocese owing to the falling off of incomes derived from glebe land brought about by agricultural depression. The Bishop of Worcester, who presided, the Dean (Lord Alwyne Compton), and other speakers affirmed that there were many cases of urgent want where the income of clergymen de-pended upon profit from their glebes. After discussion it was resolved to raise a fund for the relief of clergymen suffering through agricultural depression, to be distributed by the Diocesan Clergymen's Widows' and Orphans' Society.

LONGEVITY .- Reference is frequently made to the marvellous strength of the Premier, who has just entered his seventy-second year. In a few weeks the father of the Postmaster-General will enter upon his ninetieth year; and for his age he is strong. On Tuesday M Gaulthier de Rumilly, the senior member of the French Senate, and who is ninety-one years of age, delivered a thoughtful opening address. But the French Senator was the junior of Captain Sim, who died at his residence at 29. Clement's-lane, on Monday last, in his ninety-third year. - Echo.

LICENSED INFECTION .- It is difficult to write temperately of the utter want of caution exhibited by the officers of the Local Government Board in dealing with the men who obstinately and ignorantly persist in defying the worst dangers to be apprehended from the presence of small-pox in the midst of crowded towns. According to a recent note from the Local Government Board to the guardians of Evesham, it is henceforth to be a rule not to institute prosecutions against persons already fined for resisting the vacci-nation law in respect to their children. The effect of general adoption of this regulation, it need hardly be said, will be illimitable multiplication of cheap martyrs, who, at the expense of a single fine, will willingly purchase the State license to prapagote disease by means of their unvaccinated offspring. That this is the consequence to be feared from Mr. Dodson's ill-judged temporising with

anti-vaccinating professors proof is already forthcoming, Mr. Ellison having recently refused to visit a parent with the punishment rightly incurred by his resistance of the law, on the ground that the Local Government Board had declared against repeated fining of the same individual .- Medical Press and

An "OLD SALT."-The death is announced, at his residence, 29, Clement's-lane, City, in his 93d year, of Mr. A. Sim, better known as "Captain" Sim. Many will miss the bright and genial old man, whose upright form unbowed by age, his ever-cheerful humour, his long experience, his wide wanderings over the world, and his retentive memory for the men and things he had met with in his long

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A Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 15-16, 1882.

M. Gambetta desires to establish a lo-

M. GAMBETTA AND THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

gical symmetry by enacting the scrutin de liste, not, as was formerly proposed, in the shape of an ordinary law, but as a fundamental article of the Constitution. The changes set forth as expedient in the method of election to the Senate, though inferior in immediate interest to the demand for the abolition of scrutin d'arrondissement, are not unimportant. The effect of the increase of the delegates from the Municipal Councils at Senatorial elections in proportion to the number of registered voters in the communes will result in the swamping of rural voters in four or five departments by the urban electors. The substitution for life Senators "co-opted" by the Senate itself of Senators chosen for nine years by the votes of the two Chambers will not, it may be hoped, exclude eminent men who for the moment have lost the favour of the masses. The restrictions on the powers of the Senate in the matter of money Bills is, while the Republican ma-

jority holds together, an unnecessary precaution. The influence of these modifications, however, will be slight and gradual compared with that of the adoption of scrutin de liste. For this, M. Gambetta enters into no lengthened and apologetic arguments. He lays it down as indisputable, in firm if not imperious language, that the Legislature, "yielding to the political sentiment of the nation, are bound to settle that great question according to Republican tradition. It is the immediate insertion in the Constitution of the principle of scrutin de liste which is insisted upon. By and by, "towards the expiration of the Chamber's term of existence," a law can be passed giving effect to the new constitutional provision. It cannot be contended, therefore, that the Chamber is being asked to commit suicide before it has well entered upon its life and work. With respect, however, to the affirmation of the principle, M. Gambetta warns the Chamber that in voting against scrutin de liste they would reject the well-established doctrine and conviction of the Republican party repeatedly attested in Parliamentary struggles and recently supported at the elections by large majorities. Scrutin de liste is to be accepted as "the most logical and most vigorous expression of universal suffrage. All this is difficult to be disputed-not only from M. Gambetta's point of view,

but from that taken up, in theory at least, by most of the Republican representatives in the present Chamber. The late Chamber voted for scrutin de liste. That was the principal issue before the country at the ensuing elections. Nevertheless, the Chamber was elected under the scrutin d'arrondissement, and, as everybody knows, a very different body would be chosen under the rival system. Though unable to array themselves openly against scrutin de liste, the Deputies are, therefore, bitterly disappointed at having to submit to the immediate opening of the question. They are prepared to denounce the inconsistency of M. Gambetta, who in his speech at Neubourg last September declared that it would be "supremely ridiculous" for any one engaged in practical politics to bring forward the subject at the opening of the first session of the new Legislature. M. Gambetta has probably found, as many another statesman has found when he has

come to look at practical politics from a position of Ministerial responsibility, that he cannot keep to the letter of former pledges and protests. The inconsistency, in the present instance, of trivial; it is concerned with no matter of principle-for M. Gambetta asserted at Neubourg as strongly as ever his adherence to scrutin de liste-but with a simple question of time. As to the expediency of the policy M. Gambetta has adopted there may be much

difference of opinion, but he has to make his choice between two courses, each with its own difficulties and dangers. The reasons which have determined M. Gambetta to leave the ground he took up in his Neubourg speech are telerably clear. He has already discovered that the sullen and secret opposition of a Chamber elected under scrutin d'arrondissement to the impending change must be reckoned with, and he deems it wise to grapple with that spirit at once. If he should fail to carry the Legislature with him now, the constituencies, it is almost certain, would punish the defection of men who would be held to have broken their faith. M. Gambetta's retirement would be attributed to jealousy and intrigue: and the breaking-up of parties would discredit the Chamber, and would prevent the formation of any stable Government. Doubtless M. Gambetta calcu-

lates that the Deputies, whatever their chagrin, will think twice, and even thrice, before precipitating so grave a crisis. He has not demanded urgency; he has left ample time for reflection, and he has exhorted the Chamber to consider most seriously the "imperative nature" of the

make good their words they can hardly

issues presented to it. Without in any degree changing our views as to the abstract merits of scrutin de liste, we trust that the stability of the political situation in France will not be jeopardised by a crisis for which there is no sufficient reason. The majority of the Republican party are pledged to scrutin de liste, and now that M. Gambetta has called upon them to

by the acceptance of the constitutional principle, the danger of intrigue, inspired by selfish fears, in the present Chamber would be much lessened. The whole of Europe is interested in the establishment of a strong and solid Government in France, and this country has, unfortunately, peculiar reasons for dreading sudden and disturbing changes.-Times.

THE SITUATION IN EGYPT.

The Times has received the following telegram, dated Sunday, from its corre-

spondent at Alexandria :-The Egyptian situation has become very grave. The new Parliament refuses to give up its right of voting the Budget. It also claims complete Ministerial responsibility and initiative in all laws. This programme clashes with the programme of the Khedive and Sherif Pacha, who respect the limits placed on the free action of Egypt by the In-ternational Convention. Sherif Pacha will resign if the Parliament persists in its demand, and the Minister of War, who is pledged to the National party, will succeed him. The existence of the Anglo-French Controllers would be endangered by such a change, which would infringe the Controllers' rights, even if they withdrew within the strictest limits of their powers. Unluckily, the Collective Note of England and France has not overawed the National party, which doubts the feasibility of a joint intervention and thinks that any intervention will be prevented by the other European Powers. The policy of France and England is anxiously awaited; precipitate action might produce actual danger.

THE CLOTURE.

The panic which the Conservatives feel, or affect to feel, on the subject of the cliture, or as the Spectator prefers to call it, the "closure," is, that paper remarks, even more inappropriate than the panic which is, no doubt, really felt by a few crotchety Liberals, like Mr. Anderson :-Liberals who habitually believe in the contrary, as some Liberals do, may perhaps have something to say for themselves in deprecating any restriction of the enormous licence of speech now secured to them. They have no colleagues in "another place" who might take up their cry when their mouth is stopped. When discussion ceases in the House of Commons, so far as their opinions go, it probabty ceases altogether. But it is not so as regards the Conservatives. Even when they are in Opposition, they can secure that what is not said in the House of Commons shall be said, with a very good chance of making itself practically effective, in the House of Lords. The closure, therefore, would not affect the Conservatives half as much as it would affect the Liberals. When the Liberals are in power, they would be compelled to listen over again to every argument that had been stated in the Lower House, and to hear it given with all the advantages of a sympathetic audience, in the Upper, and very likely be compelled to adopt some amendment founded upon these arguments, on pain of losing the neasure altogether if they refused. But when the Conservatives were in power, the arguments of the Opposition, once silenced in the Lower House, would be, to all practical intents and purposes, silenced altogether. In the Upper House, the silent host of peers would vote down amendment after amendment, after scant hearing of the few voices raised in their favour. In reality, the Conservatives have in the House of Lords a court of appeal against any effect produced by the closure in the House below. The Liberals have no such court of appeal. They will not make any impression in the Lords, if they have failed to make a due impression in the Commons. We can understand, therefore, Mr. Anderson and the Liberal crotcheteers anticipating some curtailment of their own rather large powers of trying the patience of Parliament, if, as we hope, the closure by a majority is adopted; but we can hardly give the Conservatives credit for seriously anticipating the same result. The only effect of too great stringency in suppressing them in the House of Commons would be, first, the immediate loss of influence by the Government of the day; and next, the artificial stimulus which would thereby be given to their friends in the Lords, who would descant to a most sympathetic audience on the dis-creditable way in which discussion had been suppressed "in another place."

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Durban correspondent of the Times telegraphed on Saturday :A correspondent in Northern Zululand, under date December 29, sends me disquieting accounts of the state of things there. The general opinion in the country is that the people are sleeping on a volcano. There is misgovernment everywhere, from the chiefs to the smallest captains. There is no hand to restrain them and there is no visible British authority. The Resident is distrusted. Dunn's Land is the only territory governed well. The other chiefs would fain follow Dunn's example, but are prevented by circumstances. Mayaman and his people are still troublesome and truculent. Reports were again rife that the ex-King was on the road back. Thereof the chiefs could not raise 100 men from each thousand warriors in their districts. My informant suggests that an independent Commission should be appointed to inquire into the state of the country. A central admini-strator is also needed. The natives are quite ready to work in the country if they are encouraged to do so.

Affairs still go on smoothly in the Transvaal. The popular disapproval of the new taxes will probably result in their modification. It is said that an American company has proposed to construct the Delagoa Bay Railway. It is stated here that no tender has yet been accepted for the Natal extension. The Native Commission sits daily under the presidency of the Chief Justice. The natives have been invited to give evidence. A pos-thumous letter from the late President Burgers, which has been published, attributes the annexation of the Transvaal to the desertion of him by the Boer leaders, to the popular apathy, and to private influences excercised by the Special Commissioner. He indignantly repudiates having accepted a pension as the price of his submission, and states that he bore the imputation in silence rather than injure the popular cause.

I have just heard from Dunn's Land, where trade, industry, and missionary operations are all steadily progressing, that Umlandela wishes to come under Dunn. Another chief beyond St. Lucia Bay, a former tributary of Cetywayo, has voluntarily sent tribute to Dunn. The Zulus in Dunn's Land, having been told that the majority of the white men want Cetywayo back, express a corresponding desire, but the Europeans in the country believe that the return of the King would be fatal to the peaceful development of the country.

DEATH OF SIR RICHARD MALINS. Sir Richard Malins expired on Sunday night at his residence in Lowndes-square. The deceased ex-judge was born in 1805, and was therefore seventy-six years of ago at the time of his death. It will be remembered that Sir Richard retired from his post as Vice-Chancellor in the course of last year, his resignation of his judicial office being necessitated by failing health, to which no doubt the fall from his horse which he sustained rather more than a year ago materially condraw back. If the question were settled I tributed. A short time before his own decease

losing his wife, and the shock of the bereavement, acting on a frame enfeebled by age, was one cause of the fatal termination of his short illness. Sir Richard Malins received his education at Cambridge, and was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1830. He chose the Chancery side of legal business, and after a successful career became a Queen's Counsel and a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn in 1849, nineteen years after his first assumption of the barrister's wig and gown. Politically he was always a staunch Conservative, and he succeeded in entering Parliament on those principles as representative of the small borough of Wallingford in 1852. Re-elected in 1857, and again two years afterwards, he lost his seat at the general election which took place in July, 1865. The Conservative Government, however, appointed him to the elevated post of a Vice Chancellor the very next year, on which occasion he received the honour of knighthood, and he continued occupant of that position until within a year of his death. As an Equity Judge Sir Richard Malins was well known. His Court in Lincoln's Inn always had a character of its own, and a strong sympathy for what appeared to be the oppressed or the weaker side was always ap-parent in the Vice-Chancellor's remarks and udgments. No doubt was over entertained of his intellectual abilities, notwithstanding the fact that many of his decisions suffered reversal at the hands of the Court of Appeal. Altogether the venerable Judge has left behind him pleasant memories of his general kindliness of disposition, and his retirement from the Bench last year was the occasion of respectful tokens of regret from the members of his own profession, to whom the news of his death will come as the removal of one more legal landmark of the past.

The Standard says:-It is with great regret that we announce the death of Vice-Chancellor Sir Richard Malins-an event, however, for which his precarious condition during the past few days must have prepared his numerous friends. Though not a great lawyer in the technical sense of the word, he was perhaps one of the most re-presentative Equity Judges that the Bench has produced. His rule was to make him-self thoroughly master of the minutest details of the cases which came before him, and having by his keen acumen and profound common sense arrived at what he believed to be a just opinion upon the facts, to make the law fit in with what appeared to him as right. The habit of thus exactly and conscientiously examining from the point of view of a private individual, all matters upon which he had to decide professionally, he had acquired in the early part of his career, when practising as an Equity draughtsman, and it was that habit allied to other sterling qualities which then procured for him an enormous and lucrative prac-tice. Such a patriarchal view of his high office, however conducive to the dispensation of real justice, and satisfactory to the liti-gants who came into this Court, did not perhaps always tend to increase his judicial reputation, and his judgments were very often appealed against on points of law. Still, for fifteen years he enjoyed the cordial esteem of his colleagues, the respect of the Bar, and the admiration of the general public, who justly regarded him as the champion of moral right, and common sense, against mere technicalities and precedents—in other words, as an Equity Magistrate in fact, as well as in On the fusion of the Equity with the Law Courts he was appointed one of the Judges of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Judicature, which position he held until increasing age and infirmities obliged him to resign it in March, 1880. Sir Richard Malins never took a very prominent part in politics, and his appointment to the Vice-Chancellorship some eighteen months after he had left the House, seems to have better satisfied both his tastes and his ambition. The loss of his wife, to whom he was deeply attached, and who died only a short time ago no doubt hastened the result of his last illness. Greater Judges there have been, who have left more brilliant professional reputations behind them. But few will be remembered with more respect and affection, for his unswerving integrity and comprehensive kindness of heart, than Sir Richard Malins. It is consolatory to think that he was not removed in the midst of his useful work, but after a long life's labours well and honestly done.

THE RELEASE OF INNOCENT MEN.

A correspondent who, on Saturday, interviewed Johnson, one of the men released from Millbank Prison in consequence of the dying confession of a farmer named Brooks, says that he found him with his wife, her brother and a neighbour at his new home, an eight acre farm known as Short Croft, which belongs to Mr. Wm. Carhishley, Mrs. Johnson's father. Johnson was so greatly altered in appearance that his friends were unable to recognise him. He was just six feet high, and formerly weighed ten score. In place of the stout well-built yooman, Johnson is now a raw-boned man, with sunken cheeks and hollow chest. Johnson said he purposely avoided returning home on Friday night as he could have done. He waited for daylight, lest people would say he was afraid of it, and had stolen home like a thief in the night. With reference to the case, he added, have had nought against Brooks, though he was very friendly. On the night this is said to have happened to Clowes, Sherratt, and Sherratt's son, a lad of eighteen, and I re-turned together from the rent audit of our landlord at the Fox Inn, Rushton. We overtook Brooks on the way home, while he was standing at a neighbour's gate. I must tell you there had been a sale of geese, and I had overbid Brooks, and I reckon he was a bit peevish about that. I spoke to him when he joined us about the geese and other things, and he walked a short distance our way. We left him about half a mile from his place our party branching off into another road. It had been snowing, but had left off, and it was then a bright, frosty, moonlight night. Clowes, Sherratt, his lad, and I had some more talk further on, and we separated to go home about twelve o'clock. I heard no more about Brooks for a day or two, when a report reached me that he had been attacked and maltreated. I said then it was a wonderful thing it should have happened without us knowing anything of it. I felt sorry for the man, but could not understand how he could have been hurt. Some days after that got a summons, and I said, innocently enough, to the constable who served it, and told me it was about Brooks, "Oh, yes; expected it;" as I thought, having been with him, we were sure to be called as witnesses for him. When I knew what it meant, I got angry to think he had accused me. I never feared the end. I thought nothing would come of the summons before the Magistrates. There were two hearings before the Magistrates, and on the 31st December, 1879, we were committed to the Stafford Assizes, being taken for each of us for £100, and £100 of our own. We went to Stafford on Friday, 22d of January, 1880, to be tried. The trial took place on the Monday following, and on the 26th we were sentenced. I could not believe my ears. I tried to speak, but they told me to shut up, and hurried me out of Court. I was not satisfied with what was done for us by the lawyers, and am now taking advice what to do. Clowes and I were kept for a time in Stafford Gaol. From there we were taken to Pentonville, where we were kept about six months in solitary confinement. Our next prison was Mill-bank, where we also remained about half a year, Then we were taken to Chatham,

where I was put to working like a navvy.

After I was sentenced I thought I would have

the ex-Vice-Chancellor underwent the grief of | died, as my poor father has done, of a broken heart because of this trouble. The chaplain in Pentonville, however, is a kind man, and be gave, me some comfort and hope. But many a night I have nearly burst my eyes out with crying about it. My eyesight is very poor now from it. After a while I made up my mind to do the best I could and not get punished, and so I soon did all I could to please. I gave over even thinking of tobacco, of which I was very fond. I tried hard to content myself. I was known as G 166, and Clowes was G 167. I saw him a good deal, but only managed once in a while to exchange a word. Latterly I was employed in a different gang and saw less of him than ever. We heard rarely from our friends. The first news I heard of my chance of getting out was a week ago. On Thursday last I was told not to go to work and was taken to the hospital, where Clowes and I got better food. On Friday morning they told us that we were to be sent to Millbank, and as they gave us a suit of new clothes my heart jumped, and I was afraid to think too hopefully of what seemed our coming release. We left Chatham at eight o'clock on Friday morning. I reached Millbank at eleven in the forenoon. We were then taken into a room and told by the Governor and another that we were to be set Some money was given us, and we had new suits of clothes and portmanteaus also handed us. We left Millbank with an officer, who took us to Euston Station, where we got into the 3.20 afternoon train and came on to Burslem. Clowes stopped with me there at the house of one of my friends, Richard Clewes, of the Cross Keys Inn, till next day. Crowds of people came to see us and shake hands. The Mayor of Burslem also called and gave us each 2s. 6d., and offered to help us in any way he could. On Saturday morning Clowes went on to Congleton, and I was driven in a dog-cart to Leek, where, after calling on friends and buying some things, I

started for home. Samuel Clowes, whom the correspondent afterwards saw, had every appearance of having suffered more than Johnson. He is greatly changed, and weighs five stone less than when he was sent to penal servifude. In the course of his narrative he said:— I was very thankful when at last we were released and on our way home. After leaving Burslem on Saturday morning I went to Congleton, where, as it was market day, I met my mother, brother, and a lot of friends. They took me to the Fair House, where hundreds came to see me and congratulate me. I left them at a late hour, and walked home

with some of my friends. The Daily News remarks :- Now that Johnson and Clowes, the two men who were convicted at the Staffordshire Assizes in January, 1880, of wounding Isaac Brooks, have been set at liberty, general surprise is being expressed at the slightness of the evidence on which they were condemned and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. The only corroboration of the prosecutor's statement appears to have been the undoubted fact that he had been injured by somebody, and the existence of a possible, though not a very likely, motive on the part of Clowes Morcover, a third man named Sherratt, who had been originally indicted with the other two, swore to statements which, if believed, would have proved an alibi. But it must be re-But it must be remembered that the two prisoners' mouths, unlike Sherratt's, were closed throughout the trial; and the inconvenience which this artificial and irrational rule of law is always liable to cause can seldom have been more effectively illustrated. It is scarcely too much to say that if Clowes and Johnson had been separately and carefully examined the impropriety of finding them guilty, if not the strong probability of their innocence, would have been clearly demonstrated. Yet from some curious scruple against an imaginary unfairness to the accused a salutary reform is still opposed. That it would confuse a guilty man, and possibly lead him into admission of his guilt, to be asked a series of pointed questions, is true enough; and so much the better. But that any hardship should be inflicted on an innocent man we do not for an instant believe. Rather would such scandals as the one which has just been disclosed be avoided. A criminal trial is an investigation into facts where the best means of arriving at the truth should be adopted, and not a hunt where sport requires that the game should have a fair start, and be allowed in all cases a reasonable chance of escape.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE SATURDAY. The Quoen and Princess Beatrice drop out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Hon-Victoria Baillie. The Prince of Leiningen visited her Majesty vesterday, and remained to luncheon. The Queen walked with Princess Beatrice this morning.

The Queen drove out yesterday, attended by Lady Waterpark and the Dowager Marchioness of Ely. Princess Beatrice went out with the Empress Eugénie. The Empress, attended by Mme. de Arcos, the Duc de Bassano, and Baron Corvisart, dined with the Queen Lieutenant-General the Right Hon. Sir Heary Ponsonby had the honour of being invited. Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice and the members of the Royal Household attended Divine service at Osborne this morning. The Rev. Canon Prothero officiated.

ACCOUGHEMENT OF THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT BAGSHOT PARK, SUNDAY. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught was safely delivered of a daughter this day, at 10 minutes past three p.m. Her Royal Highness and infant are doing well. W. S. PLAYFAIR, M.D. F. H. LAKING, M.D.

The Prince of Wales was present at a meeting of the members of the General Committee of the British Museum on Saturday. Prince and Princess Christian left Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, on Sunday afternoon, for London, on their way to Germany. Their Royal Highnesses will remain on the Continent for two months.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter's party at Burghley House during the past week included the Earl of Westmorland and Lady Grace Fane, the Earl of Winchilsea. the Dowager Countess of Lonsdale and Lady Sybil Lowther, Field-Marshal Lord Strathnairn, Lord and Lady Randolph Churchill, Lord and Lady Burghley, Lord W. Cecil, the Right Hon. Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote and Miss Northcote, Hon. Miss Drummond Willoughby, Hon. John W. Fitzwilliam, Hon. F. Lawless, Mr. and Lady Mary Hozier, Sir B. Cunard, Mr. Wingfield, Mr. Fergusson of Novar, and Mr. Forbes.

Earl Granville has arrived at his town residence, Carlton-house-terrace, from Wal-

Viscount and Viscountess Grey de Wilton. Viscount Castlerosse, Lady Huntingtower and Lady Agatha Tollemache, Lady Grace Lowther, Hon. Fitzroy Stewart, Hon. Evelyn Drummond Willoughby, and Colonel Gardner have been among the guests of Lord and Lady Aveland at Normanton Park. Sir Robert Buxton has left Thomas's Hotel.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE " STANDARD.") We learn on good authority that all the

Cabinet Ministers will re-assemble in town on the 20th inst. With reference to the explosion on board her Majesty's ship Triumph, the Admiralty, immediately on receipt of the news, communicated with the friends of the deceased, and telegraphic orders went sent to all stations that Xerotine Siccative was a dangerous explosive, and should be got rid of at once.

Lieutenant Howgaard, R.D.N., has arrived | of an Old Legend in Modern Life Mr. Merivale in Lordon from New York, the discovery of the Jeannette having forcibly rendered his projected search after the American exploring ship useless. M. Howgaard proceeds now to Paris to consult with Mr. Gordon Bennett, and afterwards to Utrecht, where he is to arrange with Dr. Snellen, who is the leader of the proposed Dutch Arctic Expedition to the mouth of the Yenisei, to take the command of the expeditions. Negotiations are being carried on with Sir Allen Young for the loan of the *Pandora* to take the Dutch expedition to the Arctic regions.

VANITY FAIRINGS.

I have always believed in knee-breeches. When Morality declared in favour of ordinary trousers the cause of high and holy Art received a blow. The beautiful and manly curves which delight the eyes of the Fair were made by the Author of the Universe to be exposed to all the winds that blow, and all the eyes that care to gaze. The niggard Ages brought on the reign of Poole, and the swelling curves were cruelly concealed. I used to encourage regrets. I longed to see the time when Mirabell should show the shining lines of creamy stockings before gratified assemblies of Valour and Loveliness. (You see I drop into capital letters while my seventeenth century enthusiasm possesses me) I now find that there exists an apostle after my own heart. An English youth of culture and enthusiasm has appeared in a dark continent. He carries with him regene rative theories concerning barbers, English rhymes, Art, advertisements, God, and God's enemies. He appeared before an audience of American ladies and gentlemen, and proceeded to give a practical demonstration of my theory of manly beauty. He wore knee-breeches. I regret to say that the American ladies and gentlemen broke into ungodly laughter, and were only restrained from indecent howling by the prompt interposition of an agent who introduced the knee-breeches and the accompanying poet. We are getting on. Yet I cannot help thinking that half measures are perhaps wrong. If one really wants to advertise, why not try a complete armour of silk fleshings? Tights are always interesting—much more interesting than bad poetry and diluted Pater. If the American ladies and gentlemen really want to see one of the prophets of Art who are received in English Society, why should they not see a good deal of him? Nevertheless the kneeb. eaches showed fine business capacity in the

child of song. Barnum will admire.

An odd form of theft came off, I regret to say, successfully some time ago. A lady ordered a pair of boots from an eminent firm of bootmakers. They were duly sent home about seven o'clock in the evening. The lady dined out that night, and a little after eight a messenger called from the boot-shop to say the wrong pair had been left, and "he was to take them back, and the boots ordered would be sent in the morning." The unsuspecting servant gave up the boots demanded, and they have never since been heard of. The boy who left the boots originally, and who was thoroughly trusted by his employers, admitted that he had been met and talked to by two men while on his errand; that they told him they, too, had once been errand boys, before, by honest industry, they got rich; and they took a kindly interest in him and his parcels. They left him at the corner of the square, whither he was bound, with best wishes for his success in life. When my friend laid her terrible tale before the Head of the Detective Department her only consolation was a gentle smile, and "Ah! boo's! how interesting! I've known it with dresses, bonnets, and legs of mutton, but boots is quite

new-very curious indeed! Boots! While we are all talking and shuddering over the theatre fire-panic question, I notice carelessness that is little better than criminal in the habits of the single-stud division in the matter of their smoking. They light their cigarettes in the lobbies and chuck them away this is all very well when the floor, as at the Haymarket, of the smoking-room is tesse-lated, or when ashpans are provided, and the men have the courtesy to use them; but I have seen a cigarette end on a carpet more than once, and only a few nights ago, as I entered the Royalty Theatre, I saw a very gorgeous young man chuck away his lighted cigar, not into Dean-street, but on to the oil-cloth that covers the floor of the hall, and then dash upstairs. Some sensible stranger promptly "golfed" it out on to the steps, but the catseye with the young man attached to it had disappeared. Surely the last puff might

be finished in the cab. Warwickshire is breaking out into un-wouted gaiety, the arrival of the wealthy bride, Lady Brooke, at her husband's paternal home being apparently the excuse for a vast number of balls being given, at which she kindly appears as patroness.

In London not much goes on during the beginning of the year; a few juvenile dances are the chief entertainments. Of these Lady Conyngham's ball, which is to take place at her residence in Belgrave-square, will be one of the most unique of the season. The ancy dress, and, as there will be present some of the most beautiful children in London, the effect cannot fail to be bewitching. Great rejoicings are going on in the house of Rosebery at this moment, and the arrival of the ardently desired son and heir is an event of no mean importance to the world at large. The future possessor of millions, and heir to one of the noblest of our Scottish names, may be, like his father, a possible benefactor to hundreds of inferior beings; at

the dispenser of many of the good things of this life. Mrs. Langtry made a great sensation the other day at Brighton. Her debut there was even more successful than the one in London; every seat, hole, and corner was engaged if not weeks before.

all events he will have it in his power to be

Mr. Langtry is meanwhile far away in America and unable to participate in the connubial laurels .- Vanity Fair.

THE DRAMA.

The drama by Mr. Herman Merivale, produced three months ago at Manchester as A Modern Faust, was played on Saturday night for the first time in London at the Globe Theatre, under the title of The Cynic. rumours which had been heard of the literary skill displayed in Mr. Merivale's work, and of the opportunity which it affords for powerful acting, proved to have been well founded, and whatever may be the ultimate fate of the piece there can be no question concerning the deep impression which it was able to make. There are, however, great difficulties with which an author has to contend when he strives to modernise such a legend as this, and to give us a Marguerite, a Faust, and a Mephistopheles of everyday life. His task is in many ways even harder than that which Mr. Gilbert set himself in Greichen. It becomes all important that he should find some wholly satisfactory substitute for the supernatural agency brought to bear upon his hero and heroine. He must provide Mephistopheles with natural means as well as na-tural motives; and if, like Mr. Merivale, he desires to make his work a comedy, he must alter not only the fate, but the whole nature of Marguerite. That Mr. Merivale has altogether succeeded in fulfilling these conditions cannot, we fear, be affirmed; and, judged as a whole, The Cynic can scarcely be pronounced a consistent or convincing piece of art. But in many respects it is a play of remarkable interest, ever though this interest is generally aroused by something entirely apart from its dramatic action. For the motto of his Shadow

takes a saying of George Eliot, to the effect that an actual Mephistopheles, if "obliged to manage his own plots, would inevitably make That is as much as to assert that in real life Mephistopheles cannot exist, for whatever Mephistopheles does he certainly must not blunder if he is to retain his identity. But the Mephistopheles under consideration, a certain ruined and desperate adventurer, named Count Lestrange, may fairly be said to lose his game through miscalculations, just as he is obviously able to play it with success up to a certain point only through a series of extraordinary chances. Except for his extremely clever talk he strikes one as a supremely lucky, rather than a very able, scoundrel, such as the Jacques Collin, of Balzac, who makes a tool of Lucien, and nearly carries out a scheme even more infamous than Lestrange's. The chief objects of this Lestrange are money and revenge. He requires a large sum to save him from imminent ruin; he hates a young married woman named Daisy Brent, first because she once refused his suit, and secondly because she and her husband-now absent in India-are thought by him to have interfered with another of his matrimonial schemes. The late husband of a rich widow named Lady Luscombo was, it seems, persuaded by Mr. Brent to put a clause in his will by which Lady Luscombo loses her fortune if she marries Lestrange. But her ladyship, whose character is, we may at once confess, incomprehensible to us, is still in Lestrange's power, since he holds her compromising letters. She is, as has been said, very wealthy, so she wagers ten thousand pounds against her packet of letters that Lestrange will fail to make Daisy Brent-who is her ward-faithless to her absent husband. As subsequent events prove, Lady Luscombe is by no means a depraved and malicious woman; and yet she consents, not only to be a party to this hideous plot, but to further it, in order to secure her own safety at the cost of her friend's ruin. The dreadful bet is made at Lestrange's chambers ; the first steps towards winning it are carried out at the Rook's Nest, an old ruin near Luscombe Abbey, where Daisy's old lover, Guy Faucit, is living the life of a melancholy recluse, all unconscious how near he is to his faithless lady-love of days gone by. The first scene between Faucit and his tempter is very ably written, and much skill is expended upon the attempt to make Lestrange's influence over his victim seem natural. It is not until Daisy, who is brought to the spot by Lady Luscombe, is seen by her broken-hearted lover that he consents to return to the world which he has left, and to take by Daisy's side the place to which he now has no right. Yet, as it seems to us, Guy Faucit has no adequate reason for his fall. It is eight years since he was jilted for a richer suitor by a girl for whom he had only the purest love. Why should he now, at the bidding of a sinister stranger, exchange his somewhat unmanly repinings for an active course of vicious selfishness? He does so, however, and so far Lestrange's good fortune stands him in wondrous stead. Dalsy, too, though anxious to remain loyal to the absent and unloved man whom she married as a sort of "Auld Robin Grey," easily gives way to flirtation more serious than that in which she seems to have hitherto indulged with most admirers. The dangerous intimacy renewed in the second act naturally grows in the third; and we have the repulsive spectacle of the young lady's hostess looking on at the steps taken to bring about her ruin. Occasionally, it is true, Lady Luscombe remonstrates with Lestrange; but her remonstrance clearly means very little. She seems to feel herself powerless to act except under her evil mentor's directions, and, so far as she is con-cerned, Lestrange would easily win both his money and his revenge. At the critical moment, however, Daisy's honour is saved by herself, though her reputation is destroyed by her discovery—of course planned by Lestrange—while Faucit is bidding her an impassioned farewell. This third act and its predecessor form together by far the strongest and most interesting part of the play. The clear, incisive, self-possessed style of Mr. Vezin as Lestrange places the man's coldblooded villainy in its most effective light. Miss Litton is able to arouse for Daisy all the sympathy that is possible for the trials of a Gretchen who is turned into a grass-widow. and Mr. Arthur Dacre manages to give earnestness to Faucit's love-making. Higher praise than this is indeed due to Miss Litton's treatment of a complex and wholly unconventional character, and it says much for her performance as well as for Mr. Vezin's, that they command attention, and almost arouse excitement for developments of successive situations which are discussed and discounted before they are introduced. In the last act, however, there is a sad falling off. An interval of months is supposed to have elapsed, during which Daisy has disappeared, and Faucit has sought her in vain. The day has arrived when Lestrange will have lost his ten thousand pounds if Daisy remains true to her absent husband, the news of whose recent death the arch plotter has concealed. He brings the pair together again in circumstances so suspicious as to rouse the indignation of Daisy's brother, and he hopes to drive Daisy into such despairing shame that his purpose will be gained. But he drops the telegram about Mr. Brent's inopportune death which he has so carefully and illegally suppressed. Lady Luscombe picks it up, and repenting at last of her evil courses, makes known to Mrs. Brent and her lover that their attachment need no longer be a crime. She is rewarded for this tardy virtue by Faucit, who compels Lestrange to give up her letters under a threat of prosecuting him for felony in the matter of the stolen telegram. So all ends happily except for Lestrange, who leaves us with the intimation that he means to end his career in the-wilds of Asia Minor-or Ireland. All this is very feeble and unsatis-Logically, such a conclusion seems factory. to us wholly inadequate even upon George Eliot's hypothesis of the blunders of an every day Mephistopheles ; but it is worse than this, for it is dramatically ineffective. It is a thousand pities that such crisp and brilliant dialogue, and such striking scenes as those of the two middle acts of the play should be wasted. And yet wasted we fear they will practically prove to be, in spite of the very favourable reception of The Cynic on Saturday night. - Observer.

For next Thursday is arranged the commencement of the last revival of Ours by Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft at the Haymarket. Another morning performance of She Stoops to Conquer, with Mrs. Langtry as the hero ne, is promised

for the 26th inst.

Mr. Harry Cox, the well-known actor at the Strand Theatre, is dead. He had been n bad health for some time past, and, in spite of the remonstrances of his friends, he continued to appear as the "foster-brother" Olivette up to the night before his death. He died on Tuesday, and his funeral took place on Saturday at the Hammersmith Cemetery. The funeral was attended by a large number of gentlemen connected with the theatrical profession, including Messrs. Arthur Swanborough, Lionel Brough, G. A. Taylor, G. Barrett, J. MacLean, J. R. Graham, and T. P. Hughes.

Upon the approaching anniversary of the birth of the "Bard of Avon" a series of 14 performances will be given in the Memorial Theatre, Stratford, by the Compton comedy company. The works to be performed will include As You Like It, Twelfth Night, and Romeo and Juliet. The principal feature of the fortuight, however, will be the performance of The Comedy of Errors, which will be mounted upon a scale of great completeness.

Miss Elaine Verner, who, since her very promising début at an Adelphi matinée two years ago as Juliet, has been playing in the provinces with Mr. Harkins and Mr. Walter

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 15-16, 1882.

M. GAMBETTA AND THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

M. Gambetta desires to establish a logical symmetry by enacting the scrutin de liste, not, as was formerly proposed, in the shape of an ordinary law, but as a fundamental article of the Constitution. The changes set forth as expedient in the method of election to the Senate, though inferior in immediate interest to the demand for the abolition of scrutin d'arrondissement, are not unimportant. The effect of the increase of the delegates from the Municipal Councils at Senztorial elections in proportion to the number of registered voters in the communes will result in the swamping of rural voters in four or five departments by the urban electors. The substitution for life Senators "co-opted" by the Senate itself of Senators chosen for nine years by the votes of the two Chambers will not, it may be hoped, exclude eminent men who for the moment have lost the favour of the masses. The restrictions on the powers of the Senate in the matter of money Bills is, while the Republican majority holds together, an unnecessary precaution. The influence of these modifications, however, will be slight and gradual compared with that of the adoption of scrutin de liste. For this, M. Gambetta enters into no lengthened and apologetic arguments. He lays it down as in-disputable, in firm if not imperious language, that the Legislature, "yielding to the political sentiment of the nation, are bound to settle that great question according to Republican tradition. It is the immediate insertion in the Constitution of the principle of scrutin de liste which is insisted upon. By and by, "towards existence," a law can be passed giving effect to the new constitutional provision. It cannot be contended, therefore, that the Chamber is being asked to commit suicide before it has well entered upon its life and work. With respect, however, to the affirmation of the principle, M. Gambetta warns the Chamber that in voting against scrutin de liste they would reject the well-established doctrine and conviction of the Republican party repeatedly attested in Parliamentary struggles and recently supported at the elections by large majorities. Scrutin de liste is to be accepted as "the most logical and most vigorous expression of universal suffrage." All this is difficult to be disputed-not only from M. Gambetta's point of view, but from that taken up, in theory at least, by most of the Republican representatives in the present Chamber. The late Chamber voted for scrutin de liste. That was the principal issue before the country at the ensuing elections. Nevertheless, the Chamber was elected under the scrutin d'arrondissement, and, as everybody knows, a very different body would be chosen under the rival system. Though unable to array themselves openly against scrutin de liste, the Deputies are, therefore, bitterly disappointed at having to submit to the immediate opening of the question. They are prepared to denounce the inconsistency of M. Gambetta, who in his speech at Neubourg last September declared that it would be "supremely ridiculous" for any one engaged in practical politics to bring forward the subject at the opening of the first session of the new Legislature. M. Gambetta has probably found, as many another statesman has found when he has come to look at practical politics from a position of Ministerial responsibility, that he cannot keep to the letter of former pledges and protests. The inconsistency, in the present instance, is trivial; it is concerned with no matter of principle—for M. Gambetta asserted at Neubourg as strongly as ever his adherence to scrutin de liste-but with a simple question of time. As to the expediency of the policy M. Gambetta has adopted there may be much difference of opinion, but he has to make his choice between two courses, each with its own difficulties and dangers. reasons which have determined M. Gambetta to leave the ground he took up in his Neubourg speech are tolerably clear. He has already discovered that the sullen and secret opposition of a Chamber elected under scrutin d'arrondissement to the impending change must be reckoned with, and he deems it wise to grapple with that spirit at once. If he should fail to carry the Legislature with him now, the constituencies, it is almost certain, would punish the defection of men who would be held to have broken their faith. M. Gambetta's retirement would be attributed to jealousy and intrigue; and the breaking-up of parties

would discredit the Chamber, and would

prevent the formation of any stable Go-

vernment. Doubtless M. Gambetta calcu-

lates that the Deputies, whatever their

chagrin, will think twice, and even thrice,

before precipitating so grave a crisis. He

has not demanded urgency; he has left

ample time for reflection, and he has

exhorted the Chamber to consider most

seriously the "imperative nature" of the

issues presented to it. Without in any

degree changing our views as to the

abstract merits of scrutin de liste, we trust

that the stability of the political situation

in France will not be jeopardised by a crisis

for which there is no sufficient reason.

The majority of the Republican party are

pledged to scrutin de liste, and now that M. Gambetta has called upon them to

make good their words they can hardly

draw back. If the question were settled

by the acceptance of the constitutional principle, the danger of intrigue, inspired by selfish fears, in the present Chamber would be much lessened. The whole of Europe is interested in the establishment of a strong and solid Government in France, and this country has, unfortupeculiar reasons for dreading sudden and disturbing changes. - Times.

THE SITUATION IN EGYPT. The Times has received the following

telegram, dated Sunday, from its correspondent at Alexandria :-

The Egyptian situation has become very rave. The new Parliament refuses to give gravo. The new Parlament refuses to give up its right of voting the Budget. It also claims complete Ministerial responsibility and initiative in all laws. This programme clashes with the programme of the Khedive and Sherif Pacha, who respect the limits placed on the free action of Egypt by the International Convention. Sherif Pacha will resign if the Pacha international Convention. sign if the Parliament persists in its demand, and the Minister of War, who is pledged to the National party, will succeed him. The existence of the Anglo-French Controllers would be endangered by such a change, which would infringe the Controllers' rights, even if they withdrew within the strictest limits of their powers. Unluckily, the Col-lective Note of England and France has not overawed the National party, which doubts the feasibility of a joint intervention and thinks that any intervention will be prevented by the other European Powers. The policy of France and England is anxiously awaited; precipitate action might produce actual danger.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Durban correspondent of the Times

telegraphed on Saturday :—
A correspondent in Northern Zululand,
under date December 29, sends me disunder date December 29, sends me disquicting accounts of the state of things there. The general opinion in the country is that the people are sleeping on a volcano. There is misgovernment everywhere, from the chiefs to the smallest captains. There is no hand to restrain them and there is no visible British authority. The Resident is distrusted. Dunn's Land is the only territory governed well. The other chiefs would fain follow Dunn's example, but are prevented by circumstances. Mayaman and his people are still troublesome and truculent. Reports were again rife that the ex-King was on the road back. Thereof the chiefs could not raise 100 men from each thousand warriors in their districts. My informant suggests that an independent Commission should be appointed to inquire into the state of the country. A central admini-strator is also needed. The natives are quite ready to work in the country if they are en-

Affairs still go on smoothly in the Transvaal. The popular disapproval of the new taxes will probably result in their modification. It is said that an American company has proposed to construct the Delagoa Bay Railway. It is stated here that no tender has yet been accepted for the Natal extension. The Native Commission sits daily under the presidency of the Chief Justice. The natives have been invited to give evidence. A pos-thumous letter from the late President Burgers, which has been published, attributes the annexation of the Transvaal to the desertion the expiration of the Chamber's term of of him by the Boer leaders, to the popular apathy, and to private influences excercised by the Special Commissioner. He indignantly repudiates having accepted a pension as the price of his submission, and states that he bore the imputation in silence rather than injure the popular cause.

I have just heard from Dunn's Land, where trade, industry, and missionary operations are all steadily progressing, that Umlandela wishes to come under Dunn. Another chief beyond St. Lucia Bay, a former tributary of Cetywayo, has voluntarily sent tribute to Dunn. The Zulus in Dunn's Land, having been told that the majority of the white men Cetywayo back, express a corresponding desire, but the Europeans in the country believe that the return of the King would be fatal to the peaceful development of the

DEATH OF SIR RICHARD MALINS. Sir Richard Malins expired on Sunday night at his residence in Lowndes-square The deceased ex-judge was born in 1805, and was therefore seventy-six years of age at the time of his death. It will be remembered that Sir Richard retired from his post as Vice-Chancellor in the course of last year, his resignation of his judicial office being necessitated by failing health, to which no doubt the fall from his horse which he sustained rather more than a year ago materially con-tributed. A short time before his own decease the ex-Vice-Chancellor underwent the grief of losing his wife, and the shock of the bereavement, acting on a frame enfeebled by age, was one cause of the fatal termination of his short illness. Sir Richard Malins received his education at Cambridge, and was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1830. He chose the Chancery side of legal business, and after a successful career became a Queen's Counsel and a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn in 1849, nineteen years after his first assumption of the barrister's wig and gown. Politically he was always a staunch Conservative, and he succeeded in entering Parliament on those principles as representative of the small borough of Wallingford in 1852. Re-elected in 1857, and again two years afterwards, he lost his at the general election which took place in July. 1865. The Conservative Govern-ment, however, appointed him to the elevated post of a Vice-Chancellor the very next year, on which occasion he received the honour of knighthood, and he continued occupant of that position until within a year of his death.

As an Equity Judge Sir Richard Malins was well known. His Court in Lincoln's Inn always had a character of its own, and a strong sympathy for what appeared to be the oppressed or the weaker side was always apparent in the Vice-Chancellor's remarks and judgments. No doubt was ever entertained of his intellectual abilities, notwithstanding the fact that many of his decisions suffered reversal at the hands of the Court of Appeal. Altogether the venerable Judge has left behind him pleasant memories of his general kindliness of disposition, and his retirement from the Bench last year was the occasion of respectful tokens of regret from the members of his own profession, to whom the news of his death will come as the removal of one more legal landmark of the past.

The Standard says :- It is with great regret that we announce the death of Vice-Chancellor Sir Richard Malins—an event, however, for which his precarious condition during the past few days must have pre-pared his numerous friends. Though not a great lawyer in the technical sense of the word, he was perhaps one of the most representative Equity Judges that the Bench has produced. His rule was to make himself thoroughly master of the minutest details of the cases which came before him, and having by his keen acumen and profound common sense arrived at what he believed to be a just opinion upon the facts, to make the law fit in with what appeared to him as right. The habit of thus exactly and conscientiously examining from the point of view of a private individual, all matters upon which he had to decide professionally, he had acquired in the early part of his career, when practising as an Equity draughtsman, and it was that habit allied to

other sterling qualities which then procured for him an enormous and lucrative practice. Such a patriarchal view of his high office, however conducive to the dispensation of real justice, and satisfactory to the liti-gants who came into this Court, did not per-haps always tend to increase his judicial re-putation, and his judgments were very often appealed against on points of law. Still, for fifteen years he enjoyed the cordial esteem of his colleagues, the respect of the Bar, and the admiration of the general public, who justly regarded him as the champion of moral right, and common sense, against mere technicalities and precedents—in other words, as an Equity Magistrate in fact, as well as in name. On the fusion of the Equity with the Law Courts he was appointed one of the Judges of the Chancery Division of the High Judges of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Judicature, which position he held until increasing age and infirmities obliged him to resign it in March, 1880. Sir Richard Malins never took a very prominent part in politics, and his appointment to the Vice-Chancellorship some eighteen months after he had left the House, seems to have better satisfied both his tastes and his ambition. The loss of his wife, to whom he was deeply attached, and who died only a short time ago, no doubt hastened the result of his last illness. Greater Judges there have been, who have left more brilliant professional reputa-tions behind them. But few will be remem-bered with more respect and affection, for his unswerving integrity and comprehensive kindness of heart, than Sir Richard Malins. It is consolatory to think that he was not re-moved in the midst of his useful work, but after a long life's labours well and honestly

THE RELEASE OF INNOCENT MEN.

A correspondent who, on Saturday, interviewed Johnson, one of the men released from Millbank Prison in consequence of the dying confession of a farmer named Brooks, says that he found him with his wife, her brother and a neighbour at his new home, an eight acre farm known as Short Croft, which be-longs to Mr. Wm. Carhishley, Mrs. Johnson's father. Johnson was so greatly altered in appearance that his friends were unable to recognise him. He was just six feet high, and formerly weighed ten score. In place of the stout well-built yeoman, Johnson is now a raw-boned man, with sunken cheeks and hollow chest. Johnson said he purposely avoided returning home on Friday night as he could have done. He waited for daylight, lest people would say he was afraid of it, and had stolen home like a thief in the night. With reference to the case, he added, "I have had nought against Brooks, though he was very friendly. On the night this is said to have happened to Clowes, Sherratt, and Sherratt's son, a lad of eighteen, and I returned together from the rent audit of our landlord at the Fox Inn, Rushton. We overtook Brooks on the way home, while he was standing at a neighbour's gate. I must tell you there had been a sale of geese, and I had overbid Brooks, and I reckon he was a bit peevish about that. I spoke to him when he joined us about the geese and other things, and he walked a short distance our way. We left him about half a mile from his place our party branching off into another road. It had been snowing, but had left off, and it was then a bright, frosty, moonlight night. Clowes, Sherratt, his lad, and I had some more talk further on, and we separated to go home about twelve o'clock. I heard no more about Brooks for a day or two, when a report reached me that he had been attacked and maltreated. I said then it was a wonderful thing it should have happened without us knowing anything of it. I felt sorry for the man, but could not understand how he could have been hurt. Some days after that I got a summons, and I said, innecently enough, to the constable who served it, and told me it was about Brooks, "Oh, yes; I expected it;" as I thought, having been with him, we were sure to be called as witnesses for him. When I knew what it meant, I got angry to think he had accused me. I never feared the end. I thought nothing would come of the summons before the Magistrates. There were two hearings before the Magistrates, and on the 31st December, 1879, we were committed to the Stafford Assizes, being taken for each of us for £100, and £100 own. We went to Stafford on Friday, 22d of January, 1880, to be tried. The trial took place on the Monday following, and on the 26th we were sentenced. I could not believe my ears. I tried to speak, but they told me to shut up, and hurried me out of Court. was not satisfied with what was done for us by the lawyers, and am now taking advice what to do. Clowes and I were kept for a time in Stafford Gaol. From there we were taken to Pentonville, where we were kept about six months in solitary confinement. Our next prison was Mill-bank, where we also remained about half a year. Then we were taken to Chatham, where I was put to working like a navvy. After I was sentenced I thought I would have died, as my poor father has done, of a broken heart because of this trouble. The chaplain in Pentonville, however, is a kind man, and he gave me some comfort and hope. many a night I have nearly burst my eyes out with crying about it. My eyesight is very poor now from it. After a while I made up my mind to do the best I could and not get punished, and so I soon did all I could to please. I gave over even thinking of tobacco of which I was very fond. I tried hard to content myself. I was known as G 166, and Clowes was G 167. I saw him a good deal, but only managed once in a while to exchange a word. Latterly I was employed in a different gang and saw less of him than ever. We heard rarely from our friends. The first news I heard of my chance of getting out was a week ago. On Thursday last I was told not to go to work and was taken to the hospital, where Clowes and I got better food. On Friday morning they told us that we were to be sent to Millbank, and as they gave us a suit of new clothes my heart jumped, and I was afraid to think too hopefully of what seemed our coming release. We left Chatham at eight o'clock on Friday morning. I reached Millbank at eleven in the forencon. We were then taken into a room and told by the Governor and another that we were to be free. Some money was given us, and we had new suits of clothes and portmanteaus also handed us. We left Millbank with an officer who took us to Euston Station, where we got into the 3.20 afternoon train and came on to Burslem. Clowes stopped with me there at the house of one of my friends, Richard Clewes, of the Cross Keys Inn, till next day Crowds of people came to see us and shake hands. The Mayor of Burslem also called and gave us each 2s. 6d., and offered to help us in any way he could. On Saturday morn-

ing Clowes went on to Congleton, and I was driven in a dog-cart to Leek, where, after calling on friends and buying some things, I started for home. Samuel Clowes, whom the correspondent afterwards saw, had every appearance of having suffered more than Johnson. He is greatly changed, and weighs five stone less than when he was sent to penal servitude. In the course of his narrative he said:—
"I was very thankful when at last we were released and on our way home. After leaving Burslem on Saturday morning I went to met my mother, brother, and a lot of friends. They took me to the Fair House, where hundreds came to see me and congratulate me. I left them at a late hour, and walked home

The Daily News remarks :- Now that Johnson and Clowes, the two men who were con-victed at the Staffordshire Assizes in January, 1880, of wounding Isaac Brooks, have been set at liberty, general surprise is being expressed at the slightness of the evidence on in the second act naturally grows in the third;

which they were condemned and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. The only corro-boration of the prosecutor's statement appears to have been the undoubted fact that he had been injured by somebody, and the existence of a possible, though not a very likely, motive on the part of Clowes. Moreover, a third man named Sherratt, who had been originally man named Sherratt, who had been originally indicted with the other two, swore to statements which, if believed, would have proved an alibi. But it must be remembered that the two prisoners' mouths, unlike Sherratt's, were closed throughout the trial; and the inconvenience which this artificial and irrational rule of law is always likely to a supervisible to the same of the state always liable to cause can seldom have been more effectively illustrated. It is scarcely too much to say that if Clowes and Johnson had been separately and carefully examined the impropriety of finding them guilty, if not the strong probability of their innocence, would have been clearly demonstrated. Yet from some curious scruple against an imaginary unfairness to the accused a salutary reform is still opposed. That it would confuse a guilty man, and possibly lead him into admission of his guilt, to be asked a series of pointed questions, is true enough; and so much the better. But that any hardship should be inflicted on an innocent man we do not for an instant believe. Rather would such scandals as the one which has just been disclosed be avoided. A criminal trial is an investigation into facts where the best means of arriving at the truth should be adopted, and not a hunt where sport requires that the game should have a fair start, and be allowed in all cases a reasonable chance of escape.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE "STANDARD.")

We learn on good authority that all the Cabinet Ministers will re-assemble in town on the 20th inst.

With reference to the explosion on board her Majesty's ship Triumph, the Admiralty, immediately on receipt of the news, communicated with the friends of the deceased, and telegraphic orders went sent to all stations that Xerotine Siccative was a dangerous explosive, and should be got rid of at once.

Licutenant Howgaard, R.D.N., has arrived in Lordon from New York, the discovery of the Jeannette having forcibly rendered his projected search after the American exploring ship useless. M. Howgaard proceeds now to Paris to consult with Mr. Gordon Bennett, and afterwards to Utrecht, where he is to arrange with Dr. Snellen, who is the leader of the proposed Dutch Arctic Expedition to the mouth of the Vacinii. the mouth of the Yenisei, to take the command of the expeditions. Negotiations are being carried on with Sir Allen Young for the loan of the *Pandora* to take the Dutch

expedition to the Arctic regions. THE DRAMA. The drama by Mr. Herman Merivale, produced three months ago at Manchester as A. Modern Faust, was played on Saturday night for the first time in London at the Globe Theatre, under the title of The Cynic. The rumours which had been heard of the literary skill displayed in Mr. Merivale's work, and of the opportunity which it affords for powerful acting, proved to have been well founded, and whatever may be the ultimate fate of the piece there can be no question concerning the deep impression which it was able to make. There are, however, great difwhen he strives to modernise such a legend as this, and to give us a Marguerite, a F and a Mephistopheles of everyday life. task is in many ways even harder than that which Mr. Gilbert set himself in Gretchen It becomes all important that he should find some wholly satisfactory substitute for the supernatural agency brought to bear upon his hero and heroine. He must provide Mephistopheles with natural means as well as natural motives; and if, like Mr. Merivale, he as well as nadesires to make his work a comedy, he must alter not only the fate, but the whole nature of Marguerite. That Mr. Merivale has alto-gether succeeded in fulfilling these conditions cannot, we fear, be affirmed; and, judged as a whole, The Cynic can scarcely be pro-nounced a consistent or convincing piece of art. But in many respects it is a play of remarkable interest, even though this interest is generally aroused by something entirely apart from its dramatic action. For the motto of his Shadow of an Old Legend in Modern Life Mr. Merivale takes a saying of George Eliot, to the effect that an actual Mephistopheles, if "obliged to manage his own plots, would inevitably make blunders." That is as much as to assert that in real life Mephistopheles cannot exist, for whatever Mephistopheles does he certainly must not blunder if he is to retain his identity. But the Mephistopheles under considera-tion, a certain ruined and desperate adventurer, named Count Lestrange, may fairly be said to lose his game through miscalculations just as he is obviously able to play it with success up to a certain point only through a series of extraordinary chances. Except for his extremely clever talk he strikes one as a supremely lucky, rather than a very able, scoundrel, such as the Jacques Collin, of Balzac, who makes a tool of Lucien, and nearly carries out a scheme even more infamous than Lestrange's. The chief objects of this Lestrange are money and revenge. He requires a large sum to save him from imminent ruin he hates a young married woman named Daisy Brent, first because she once refused his suit, and secondly because she and her husband-now absent in India-are thought by him to have interfered with another of his matrimonial schemes. The late husband of a rich widow named Lady Luscombe was, it seems, persuaded by Mr. Brent to put a clause in his will by which Lady Luscombe loses her fortune if she marries Lestrange. But her ladyship, whose character is, we may at once confess, incomprehensible to us, is still in Lestrange's power, since he holds her com-promising letters. She is, as has been said very wealthy, so she wagers ten thousand pounds against her packet of letters that Le-strange will fail to make Daisy Brent—who is her ward—faithless to her absent husband. As subsequent events prove, Lady Luscombe is by no means a depraved and malicious woman: and yet she consents, not only to be party to this hideous plot, but to further it, order to secure her own safety at the cost of her friend's ruin. The dreadful bet is made at Lestrange's chambers; the first steps towards winning it are carried out at the Rook's Nest, an old ruin near Luscombe Abbey, where Daisy's old lover, Guy Faucit, is living the life of a melancholy recluse, all unconscious how near he is to his faithless lady-love of days gone by. The first scene between Faucit and his tempter is very ably written, and much skill is expended upon the attempt to make Lestrange's influence over his victim seem natural. It is not until Daisy, who is brought to the spot by Lady Luscombe, is seen by her broken-hearted lover that he consents to return to the world which he has left, and to take by Daisy's side the place to which he now has no right as it seems to us, Guy Faucit has no adequate reason for his fall. It is eight years since he was jilted for a richer suitor by a girl for whom he had only the purest love. Why should he now, at the bidding of a sinister stranger, exchange his somewhat unmanly repinings for an active course of vicious selfishness? He does so, however, and so far Lestrange's good fortune stands him in wondrous stead. Dalsy, too, though anxious to remain loyal to the absent and unloved

man whom she married as a sort of "Auld Robin Grey," easily gives way to flirtation more serious than that in which she seems

to have hitherto indulged with most of her

and we have the repulsive spectacle of the and we have the repulsive spectacle of the young lady's hostess looking on at the steps taken to bring about her ruin. Occasionally, it is true, Lady Luscombe remonstrates with Lestrange; but her remonstrance clearly means very little. She seems to feel herself powerless to act except under her evil mentor's directions, and, so far as she is concerned, Lestrange would easily win both his money and his revenge. money and his revenge. At the critical moment, however, Daisy's honour is saved by herself, though her reputation is destroyed by her discovery—of course planned by Lestrange—while Faucit is bidding her an impassioned farewell. This third act and its impassioned farewell. This third act and its predecessor form together by far the strongest and most interesting part of the play. The clear, incisive, self-possessed style of Mr. Vezin as Lestrange places the man's cold-blooded villainy in its most effective light. Miss Litton is able to arouse for Daisy all the sympathy that is possible for the trials of a Gretchen who is turned into a grass-widow, and Mr. Arthur Dacre manages to give and Mr. Arthur Dacre manages to give earnestness to Faucit's love-making. Higher praise than this is indeed due to Miss Litton's treatment of a complex and wholly unconventional character, and it says much for her performance as well as for Mr. Vezin's, that they command attention, and almost arouse excitement for developments of successive situations which are discussed and discounted before they are introduced. In the last act, however, there is a sad falling off. An in-terval of months is supposed to have elapsed, during which Daisy has disappeared, and Faucit has sought her in vain. The day has arrived when Lestrange will have lost his ten thousand pounds if Daisy remains true to her absent husband, the news of whose recent death the arch plotter has concealed. He death the arch plotter has concealed. He brings the pair together again in circumstances so suspicious as to rouse the indignation of Daisy's brother, and he hopes to drive Daisy into such despairing shame that his purpose will be gained. But he drops the telegram about Mr. Brent's inopportune death which he has so carefully and illegally suppressed. Lady Luscombe picks it up, and repenting at last of her evil courses, makes penting at last of her evil courses, makes known to Mrs. Brent and her lover that their attachment need no longer be a crime. She is rewarded for this tardy virtue by Faucit. who compels Lestrange to give up her letters under a threat of prosecuting him for felony, in the matter of the stolen telegram. So all ends happily except for Lestrange, who leaves us with the intimation that he means to end his career in the wilds of Asia Minor-or Ireland. All this is very feeble and unsatisfactory. Logically, such a conclusion seems to us wholly inadequate even upon George Eliot's hypothesis of the blunders of an every day Mephistopheles; but it is worse than this, for it is dramatically ineffective. It is a thousand pities that such crisp and brilliant dialogue, and such striking scenes as those of the two middle acts of the play should be wasted. And yet wasted we fear they will practically prove to be, in spite of the very favourable reception of The Cynic on Saturday night.—Observer.

For next Thursday is arranged the com-mencement of the last revival of Ours by Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft at the Haymarket. Another morning performance of She Stoops to Conquer, with Mrs. Langtry as the heroine, is promised

for the 26th inst.

Mr. Harry Cox, the well-known actor at the Strand Theatre, is dead. He had been in bad health for some time past, and, in spite of the remonstrances of his friends, he continued to appear as the "foster-brother" in Olivette up to the night before his death. He died on Tuesday, and his funeral took place on Saturday at the Hammersmith Cemetery. The funeral was attended by a large number of gentlemen connected with the theatrical profession, including Messrs. Arthur Swan borough, Lionel Brough, G. A. Taylor, G. Barrett, J. MacLean, J. R. Graham, and T.

Upon the approaching anniversary of the birth of the "Bard of Avon" a series of 14 performances will be given in the Memorial Theatre, Stratford, by the Compton comedy company. The works to be performed will include As You Like It, Twelfth Night, and Romeo and Juliet. The principal feature of the fortnight, however, will be the performance of The Comedy of Errors, which will be

mounted upon a scale of great completeness.

Miss Elaine Verner, who, since her very promising début at an Adelphi matinée two years ago as Juliet, has been playing in the provinces with Mr. Harkins and Mr. Walter Bentley, gave a recital at St. James's Hall on Saturday. She is fortunate in a fine presence, well suited to tragedy, and in an agreeable voice, and gave very pathetic expression to the extracts from Shakespeare, well suited to tragedy, and in an

from Monk Lewis, Tennyson, etc., which she had chosen to declaim. Several well-known members of the profession have been, during the past week, acting the part of the Good Samaritan, putting themselves to considerable trouble evidently finding a pleasure in it; for they have been assisting—in what does the reader imagine?—in providing Irish stew dinners for little outcasts and the children of the deserving poor; Irish stew dinners for little hard-working match-box makers, who are paid for their labour at the enormous rate of twopence farthing per gross, having, out of that princely pay, to find their own paste. There is a society called the London Cottage Mission, which provides some hundreds these tiny toilers weekly, in winter, with Irish stew dinners. To assist this society a bazaar was held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, at Myddelton Hall, Islington, and it was here, on the first-named day, that we found Miss Nelly Farren singing her song of the "Street Arab," and "I'll tell your mother," from the latest Gaiety burlesque, and then going round making purchases to swell the funds; it was here we heard Mr. E. Royce and Mr. J. J. Dallas singing amusing songs in their own amusing style; Mr. J. R. Crauford giving a selection from "Barnaby Rudge;" Mr. J. Maclean rendering, with Rudge; "Mr. J. Mactean rendering, with amazing spirit, the "Widow Malone," and, subsequently, Sir Pertinax Macsychophant's lecture to his son on the necessity of "booing;" and Herr Meyer Lutz and Miss Lucy Thomas at the pianoforte, with Mr. Robert Soutar superintending the whole of the arrangements, and our only regret was

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART. The Princess Louise is about to contribute Words a series of drawings illustrative of Quebec and its neighbourhood. They are now being engraved, and will be published immediately, along with historical and descriptive notes, and a long poem on

that the excellent and praiseworthy efforts of

these ladies and gentlemen were not better seconded by the public. On the other days,

we understand, some members of the Mascotte company and Mr. Walter Pelham gave their

Quebec by the Marquis of Lorne.

Mr. Blanchard Jerrold is engaged on a work on Egypt, which will be published shortly, and will be entitled "The Belgium of

Messrs. Longman announce as nearly ready two volumes of Lord Beaconsfield's speeches which are to be edited, with notes and a pre-face, by Mr. T. E. Kebbel. The two volumes of Mr. Froude's "Life of Carlyle," which will be published in the

will not, the Athensum says, be a complete biography, as some of the papers have supposed, but will be confined to the first 40 years of his life, 1795-1835. Mr. McCarthy, the author of the "History of Our Own Times," is writing for Messrs. Longman's series, "Epochs of Modern History," a volume entitled "Epochs of Reform,

Mr. Lansdell's "Through Siberia" promises to be a success. More than three-

fourths of the edition were disposed of before the book was ready for delivery, 500 copies

the book was ready for delivery, 500 copies being ordered by three firms.

That the late Mr. Harrison Ainsworth wrote "Sir John Cheverton" is denied by Mr. J. P. Aston. The latter gentleman states that he is the author. Mr. Ainsworth has left those of his books and papers which were at his house at Reigate to his widow; those at Hurstpierpoint to his daughter, Miss

Ainsworth.

Mr. W. Chappell is engaged in the completion of his "History of Music," which he intends to bring down to the time of Henry VIII. He is about to publish also a new edition of his "Popular Music in the Olden Time," with considerable amendments and additions additions

On the 4th of February Chambers's Journal will have completed its fiftieth year, and in commemoration of the event Dr. William Chambers, the senior conductor, will offer to his readers a résumé entitled "Reminiscences of a Long and Busy Life." This will appear in the part of the journal to be issued at the end of January.

The movement for the formation of a Scot-

tish Text Society, which was begun in Edinburgh last summer, has been well supported, over a third of the requisite number of members having put down their names. The pro-moters of the society are now about to issue their prospectus.

The editor of the Burlington has received a

characteristic letter from Mr. Ruskin upon the article "True Æsthetics" in the current number of the magazine. The world knows his opinions on the subject, but he fears it is labour in vain to open blind eyes to the great

truth that the perceptive of beauty ought to include moral as well as physical perfection.

Capt. G. A. Raikes, F.S.A., is writing "The History of the York and Lancaster Regiments," which will be the first historical work on one of the new territorial regiments.
The first volume will contain the history of
the 1st Battalion (late 65th Foot); the second volume, the 2d Battalion (late 84th Foot); and the third volume, the 3d and 4th Battalions (late 3d West York Light Infantry Militia). Each volume will be complete in itself, and contain lists of the officers, with their ser-vices; a list of stations where the battalions nave been quartered; returns; illustrations of colours, arms, uniforms, etc.; and an inlex.-Athenæum.

Mr. Sutton, of Ballarat, has improved his Mr. Sutton, of Ballarat, has improved his electrical storage battery by a newly constructed cell, which he describes as a flat copper case shaped as a Grove's cell. From its lid of paraffined wood hangs a plate of mercury-amalgamated lead. The liquid with which it is charged is a solution of cupric sulphate containing one-twelfth of hydric sulphate. "The presence of this free sulphuric acid." writes Mr. Sutton. "improves the cell phate. "The presence of this tree suipnuries acid," writes Mr. Sutton, "improves the cell

A change has taken place during the week in the administration of the two leading anti-quarian societies of Scotland. The Edinburgh Society of Antiquaries has appointed Dr. John A. Smith and Mr. J. R. Findlay to be joint secretaries, in the place of Dr. Arthur Mitchell, who has retired on account of ill health; and Mr. Cochran-Patrick, the energetic secretary of the Ayr. and Wigtown Archæological Association, has received as an assistant in his duties Mr. Cooper, of Failford. The latter gentleman has undertaken to edit the records of the Boyd family, and the Association has also in view the publication of the municipal records of Ayr and

Irvine.—Athensum.

The British Medical Journal says that the next International Congress will be held in the year 1884 in Copenhagen.

The Council of the Meteorological Society will hold an exhibition of anemometers at the Institution of Civil Engineers on the evening of March 15. The committee are desirous of obtaining as large a collection as possible of various patterns of anemometers, either full size,

nodels, or drawings.

It is noticeable that throughout Europe the argest number of suicides are to be found among authors, journalists, and musical composers; next to whom come military men.

The proprietor of one of the monthly magazines-not an English one-is reported to have performed an act worthy of imitation. Finding the quarter prosperous, he called together his *employes*, and divided amongst them £1,000. Nor was this all. He wrote friendly letters to the principal contributors, begging their acceptance of a cheque, the aggregate of which amounted to £3,000.

of which amounted to £3,000.

Mr. Walter de Gray Birch, of the British

Museum, has recently found in that library an original roll of arms of great antiquity, which it was thought had long since disappeared. Only one copy of it, made in the time of James I., and preserved in the Harleian MS... No. 6,137, was known to students until Mr. James Greenstreet, two years ago, when making inquiries, lighted upon another transcript at the College of Arms. William Camden, the antiquary, to whom this roll for-merly belonged, referred its compilation to the reign of Henry III. or Edward I., but internal evidence points to a year between 1287 and 1285 as the date when it was executed.— Athenæum.

Mr. Prinsep will probably contribute to the Royal Academy, with other works, a large picture representing the death of Siward, Earl of Northumberland, called the Strong, a ruler who, so the chronicles tell, feeling his end approach, bade his servants bear him into the open air, put on his armour, and assumed his weapons and coronet, so that he might die in arms. The painter has represented the event as occurring outside the castle of York, where the earl's comrades are grouped about his chair, and with him contemplate the setting of the sun over the Ouse and its wooded banks. Many incidents are comprised in the design and aid in telling the

atory effectually.

Mr. Legros has become a medalist, having executed five medallions in low relief, and in a manner resembling that of the late Cinquecento. Here and there certain parts are highly finished, such as the lips and nostrils. the other features being treated in an ex-tremely broad manner. These medallions comprise portraits of Carlyle, the Laureate, two artists' models, and a little girl. last pleases us most.

We (Athenxum) have much regret in announcing the death of Mr. N. Davis, the excavator of Carthage. In 1856 Mr. Davis was sent to explore the ruins of the famous city, and the results were given to the world in and the results were given to the world in his well-known volume, "Carthage and her Remains." This was followed by "Ruined Cities within Carthaginian and Numidian Territories." Mr. Davis had early in life acquired experience in Northern Africa. inTunis; or, Selections from a Journal kept during a Residence in that Regency," was published over forty years ago, and was followed by a work on the tribes of the Sahara, called "Evenings in My Tent." Mr. Davis, lived for many years in an old Moorish palace ten miles from Tunis, and many travellers found a hospitable reception at his house. He lately revisited the Regency, but the fatigue of the journey proved more than his strength would bear. He died at Florence on the 6th inst., of congestion of the lungs, after a

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS

OSBORNE, SATURDAY. The Queen and Princes: Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Hon. Victoria Baillie. The Prince of Leiningen visited her Majesty vesterday, and remained to luncheon. The Queen walked with Princess Beatrice this movement was presented by the Princess Restrict this movement. cess Beatrice this morning.

The Queen drove out yesterday, attended by Lady Waterpark and the Dowager Marchioness of Ely. Princess Beatrice went out with the Empress Eugenle. The Empress attended by Mme. de Arcos, the Due de Bas-

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A Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 17-18, 1882.

THE COMING SESSION.

The Prime Minister is to return to town on the 24th inst., and the Cabinet will meet on the following day, which will leave nearly a fortnight available for the discussion of forthcoming measures before the opening of Parliament on the 7th of February. Mr. Gladstone, it is well known, is as eager for the fray, as fresh and vigorous, as abounding in spirit and confidence as if he were a score of years younger. Yet the coming session will witness the completion by him of half a century's Parliamentary service. If he ever entertained the thought of retiring from public life, or even of lightening his labours by removing to the Upper House, a statesman of his peculiar temperament would discover sufficient reasons for changing his mind in the difficulties now confronting his Administration. The state of Ireland is still disquieting, and the influence of Irish politics on the conduct of Parliamentary business is full of grave cause for apprehension. It is true that if the Irish party carry into effect their menace of obstruction during the debate on the Address, there will be some compensation,

from a Ministerial point of view, for the inevitable embarrassment and scandal. A renewal of obstructive taca cogent practical argument for amending the procedure of the House of Commons. No such incidental advantage-for either party, or for the country-can be extracted from the revival of the weary and painful controversy over Mr. Bradlaugh's claim to be admitted to take the oath as member for Northampton. If the Opposition are wise, they will not waste their powers and damage their credit by prolonging their resistance, which, should party passions be lashed into excitement. be overcome by the united vote of the Liberal majority. The "previous question" may be used to defeat Sir Stafford Northcote's proposal to exclude Mr. Bradlaugh, but many members on both sides have begun to see that it would be the more orderly and decent course to settle the matter by passing a short bill substituting, in the classes of cases to be considered, an affirmation for an oath. The Conservatives, in waiving their right to oppose such a measure, would show, in our opinion, both practical judgment and public spirit, though they may not easily induce their younger and more fiery combatants to retreat. A far more momentous issue will be raised by the introduction of the Ministerial scheme for the reform of the rules of the House of Commons. It is above all things to be desired that neither party may approach this question in a heated and exasperated temper. The Ministry are bound to give, and, no doubt, will give to the subject in all its bearings the fullest and the calmest consideration. It must not be supposed that they have resolved to stake everything upon the adoption, absolutely and instantly, of certain unalterable proposals. The Irish Land Bill, as we know, went through more than twenty revisions during its discussion in the Cabinet, and probably some of its clauses were amended at the very last moment. The procedure of Parliament is a subject on which the Govern-

ment of the day must consult with, and,

to a large extent, must defer to, public opinion, and especially to that of the

House of Commons. The embarrassments

with which the Ministry have to deal are

frankly recognized by the country, and the

arguments in favour of changes, which

will not only put down deliberate obstruc-

tion, but will expedite the transaction of

ordinary business, are generally admitted

to be strong. But there is a disinclina-

tion, not confined to one party alone, to

surrender the securities for free debate

without considering whither the change

may lead. Some politicians talk glibly of

the necessity for "drastic measures," and

the cloture by a bare majority has been

assumed, without sufficient grounds, to be

the instrument the Government will call

upon the House of Commons to intrust them

with. Many other amendments in the ex-

isting procedure of the House have been

suggested and some will be certainly pro-

posed. It is likely that with regard to

these an agreement may easily be reached

after an interchange of ideas, by the

majority of reasonable men on both sides.

But with respect to the cloture by a bare

majority the case is altogether different.

The whole mass of the Opposition will not

even consent to look at it as an open

question. No reasoning will induce them

to concede a remedy which, as they assert,

is worse than the disease. Moreover,

they will not be without supporters, or, at

any rate, sympathisers, on the Liberal

benches. Some Radical politicians are

known to be as reluctant as the Conserva-

tives themselves to give up to the Govern-

ment of the day the power of peremptorily

putting an end to debate on any subject

whatever. Many other Liberals who see

in "government by discussion" the best

safeguard of freedom are equally hostile to

an innovation that would alter most

seriously the character of Parliament and

the course of English legislation. We are

TERMS: PARIS—A single journal, 8 sous; been received with pleasure by the a week, 2fr. 50c.; a fortnight, 5fr.; one month, country, and, when it is considered on its merits, we are inclined, after giving all due weight to the arguments urged in its favour, to come to the conclusion that the reasons on the other side turn the scale. The finality of legislative reforms in England, which depends upon the acquiescence of defeated minorities in what has been accomplished, would be destroyed if it could be alleged that discussion had been stifled by the votes of impatient majorities. The discontent of the Opposition might be suppressed on great occasions, but it would find opportunities of asserting and avenging itself which would not conduce to the rapid despatch of business. It is obvious that few of the objections to cloture by a bare majority apply to a measure by which the assent of the main body of both parties would be required for the compulsory closing of debate. A majority of twothirds or three-fourths might be replied upon to join in putting an end to idle and wasteful talk, while it would prevent any allegation that fair discussion, had been burked in the interest of a Ministry. The Prime Minister is not likely to ignore the effect of any changes proposed upon the character of the House of Commons. But there are reasons also of practical expediency which, from a party point of view, recommend caution in putting for-ward projects unfamiliar to the English There is no proof that the nation has withdrawn its confidence from Mr. Gladstone, in spite of defeats at byelections and municipal gains for Conservatism. There are, however, signs of uneasiness in the political world, which may foreshadow the removal of old party land-marks. There are clouds, too, upon the horizon of foreign affairs. The situation in Egypt is an anxious one. The protracted agony in Ireland and the difficulties in the administration of the Land Act afford matter for scornful or denunciatory criticism. It would be unwise to add to all these dangers the bitterness that would be engendered among Liberals as well as Conservatives if the Ministerial majority, morally weakened by significant defections, were to impose the clôture in its crudest form upon the House of Commons.

> THE COMMERCIAL NEGOCIATIONS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the Times

wrote on Tuesday:—
The Cabinet discussed to-day at great length the Anglo-French Treaty of Commerce. The negotiations, as is known, are being carried on just now at Paris alone between Lord Lyons, M. Gambetta, and the Minister of Commerce. It was thought the matter could thus be expedited by avoiding the delays necessarily resulting from carrying on the negotiations from a distance. Lyons knows perfectly well what are the extreme concessions he can agree to, and on their side the members of the French Cabinet conducting the negotiations know that the British Ambassador, coupled with his desire to bring this important question to a satisfactory conclusion, possesses all the necessary elements for doing so, down to the signing of the Treaty. As to the latter point, I think it may now safely be said that a treaty will be signed. The ill-considered treaty will be signed. propheciers which, since the 1st inst., notwithstanding your repeated assertions, have represented the hopes of concluding a treaty as chimerical, fortunately thus fall to the ground. I say again, what you have said before-viz., that as soon as it appeared to the statesmen of the two countries that the signing of a treaty was for both nations a paramount political necessity, before which considerations of an inferior order ought on both sides to give way, the treaty could be regarded, difficulties of detail notwithstand-ing, as certain of being concluded after a more or less prolonged interval, but an interval which could not be prolonged for ever. This is not the place to discuss which country the conclusion of a treaty most benefits. What is certain is that, despite all pretences, the treaty is essential to both nations, because the two nations are essential to each other, and because there is an enormous difference between the relations of two nations making an amicable exchange of their products and the relations of two nations combating each other on the field of industry by every means at their disposal and seeking rather to injure each other than to benefit themselves. Governments must place themselves above narrow passions when international relations question. It is, therefore, to be supposed that the members of the two Governments have obeyed this duty; that they have put aside the selfish considerations of those who think only of their personal advantage, and that in the diplomatic negotiations relative to the treaty they are looking only to the absolute necessity of the good and cordial relations which may be established between the two nations, economic conflicts being

avoided.

concessions. The difficulties of details still existing in the question of cottons, woollens, and leather are every day diminishing through compromises and the adoption of new categories; and it is hoped, as I said on Saturday, that it will not be necessary to have recourse to a fresh promulgation, how-ever short, of the present treaty. All that is possible will certainly be done to avoid it, for in the advanced state of the negotiations the demand for a fresh prolongation would necessitate either delicate explanations or uneasiness as to the final result from a refusal of explanations. As, however, there is a desire to arrive at a settlement, but as, despite the utmost goodwill on both sides, all the details might not be adjusted, an application for a prolongation not going beyond the 15th of March at farthest would in that case be submitted as urgent without giving detailed explanations, but foreshadowing almost a certainty of agreement. It is even said here, though in no spirit of recrimination, that the delay might arise from the English Cabinet, which has to decide on a concession on its side on a cer-tain point before a treaty can be signed. What, however, should be especially understood is that the mutual necessity of a treaty is now impressed on every mind that M. Gambetta, as it is but fair to state, has promptly perceived this necessity; and having perceived it, he has exerted the weight peculiar to him in impressing it on his colleagues, who are now as convinced as himself. Within the French Cabinet accordingly the accord is complete, and the difficulties of detail which arise are being considered by it, not with the covert design of magnifying them and obstructing the con-clusion of a treaty, but with a firm and unanimous intention of smoothing them down In view of this unanimous resolution, the Ministers intrusted with the negotiations are naturally acting with more confidence and energy, while the English representative on his side is advancing with greater confidence of success. The result may now, therefore, be tranquilly looked forward to. These laborious negotiations, which for ten months have been anxiously watched by all those who regard friendly relations between the two countries as essential to the welfare of both, will end amicably, and whatever unduction of the clôture pure and simple has happy issue may be confidently awaited.

Both sides seem just now disposed to make

ARREST OF THE BEY'S BROTHER.

Telegraphing on Tuesday night, the Standard correspondent at Tunis says :-Last night the Tunisian Minister of War, with two hundred native Cavalry, proceeded to the Palace of Sidi Taieb, the younger brother of the reigning Bey. This morning he was made prisoner, and he is now being conveyed to the Bardo. The circumstances which have led to this arrest are curious enough. When the French soldiers were engaged with the Kroumirs in April, M. Roustan was making all the necessary arrangements to secure the signature of the Treaty, fearing that, at the last moment, the reigning Bey would take refuge on board some foreign war ship, and thus frustrate the pre-arranged plan. M. Roustan made overtures to Taieb

Bey, giving him to understand that he would place him on the throne, provided he would sign the Protectorate Treaty. As in the end the reigning Bey signed the Treaty, and Taieb's services were no longer required, M. Roustan abandoned him, and a good deal of ill-feeling has since existed between his brother and himself. He in vain appealed to M. Roustan for protection against his own family. Taleb Bey then openly declared that a well-known lady who has played an important part in the Tunisian question, offered to secure the throne to him if he (Taieb Bey) would pay her one and a half millions of francs. M. Roustan never a half millions of francs. M. forgave this, and it is well known that the arrest has been effected at his instigation. I had an interview with Taieb Bey three days ago. He told me that he had frequently offered to the French Government to explain what had taken place between himself and M. Roustan, but without any result; and he complained that, after being made a tool to bring about the signature of the Treaty, he has since been completely abandoned and treated as an intriguer.

It has transpired that M. Roustan lately pressed the Bey on several occasions to arrest his brother Sidi Taieb, but the Bey declined to assume the responsibility. Yesterday M. Roustan informed the Bey that the French Government authorised him to take such a step. Avowedly Taieb Bey has been arrested for intriguing against his brother, but the real cause is now of public notoriety. Taieb Bey, who has a French passport, has caused a telegram to be sent to Paris, praying the French Government to allow him to pro-ceed to France and there give any explanations that may be required. The affair is causing much excitement here.

THE REVOLT IN HERZEGOVINA. The Vienna correspondent of the

Standard telegraphed on Tuesday night :-The first reports which have arrived from the scene of the insurrection consist principally of accounts of small skirmishes and attacks on gendarmes, on the post and on block houses. Cattle robbing has commenced in earnest, and the rebels have made several night attacks on villages. For some time to come the reports from the disturbed districts may be expected to be of a similar character. In this guerilla warfare, as in 1876, bands of insurgents suddenly appear at some unex-pected spot, and as suddenly disappear, no one knows whither. According to the latest news there are signs of insurrection only in South-Western Herzegovina. The territory interests. He won his spurs in Yorkshire by affected extends from Trebinje to Nevesini or to Fotcha, on the Drina River. The district forms a semicircle, closely following the Montenegrin frontier. The Austrian authorities there, however, still remain undisturbed. none of the telegraphs or other communications being interrupted showing that the insurrection is not yet bold enough to declare itself in the light of day. The fear that the revolt will soon assume dangerous proportions would be much diminished if it were possible better to guard the Montenegrin frontier, and if there were no signs of a Panslavistic agitation. The papers. however, which have been found not only on the arrested Pero Matanovic, but also on the other insurgents who have been shot or captured. prove that Panslavistic agitators are mixed up with the insurgents. The papers are said to point to the dismissed Servian Metropolitan Michael and to M. Aksakoff. They also involve some of the leaders of the Mahometan insurrection after the occupation of Bosnia by the Austrians. Some weeks back I received news from Russia stating that from Odessa to St. Petersburg competent persons, military officers and civil servants, believed war with Austria could not long be avoided. It is quite possible that such an impression is, in its origin, connected with the Panslavastic agitations now known to be

going on in Dalmatia and Herzegovina. Governor Jovanovic's plan in dealing with the insurrection is to surround the disturbed districts by echeloning his troops from Antivari, through Crivoscie, up to Narenta and Drina, cutting off all communications with the outer world, especially with the Novi-Bazar district. This, however, will not be sufficient so long as the Montenegrin frontier remains open. As to the Austrian forces on the spot. there were in December last in Dalmatia ten battalions, and in Bosnia and Herzegovina forty-two battalions of infantry, and seven of Chasseurs, with forty light, sixteen heavy, and eighteen mountain guns, and four squadrons of cavalry. All the battalions were on the peace footing, consisting of three hundred and twenty men each, so that altogether there were twenty thousand men and seventy-four guns in the south-eastern provinces in ques-Since then twenty-four battalions of infantry and six of Chasseurs, besides twentyfour guns, have been ordered thither, and have either already arrived, or are at this moment en route. Of these reinforcements seven battalions are for Bosnia, the remainder, numbering together ten thousand men, being echeloned in Herzegovina from Trebinje to Bilek, Gasko, and Fotcha. It is considered that, in order effectively to surround the disaffected districts, at least twenty thousand more troops will be required. This will raise the total of the forces in Dalmatia and Herzegovina to fifty thousand men.

THE PERSECUTION OF JEWS IN

RUSSIA.

The Odessa correspondent of the Times writes :-I am enabled to send you a word or two of explanation with respect to the Warsaw anti-Jewish riots on Christmas Day from a non-Russian official source. A great deal of blame has been cast upon the Warsaw authorities for not having put an end at once, as they could have easily done, to the disgraceful attacks and acts of pillage which lasted three days. Notwithstanding that in Warsaw and its districts some 60,000 troops were stationed, the rioters were allowed carry on their murderous and devastating work almost unmolested, owing to the feeble attempts of the police. The fact is that Major-General Boutterlin, the Chief of Police at Warsaw, who has supreme control over the peace of the town, was at that moment in St. Petersburg, and his assistant, Colonel Polinoff, whom he had left in charge, was so upset and undecided that he did nothing but wait for General Boutterlin's return. General Boutterlin at once started back for Warsaw, and his arrival immediately put a stop to the disorders. At the time of the recent anti-Semitic riots at Kieff a corresponding anti-Semitic effervescence was observable among the population of Warsaw, but General Boutterlin at once posted patrols all over the town, and thus effectually nipped the affair in the bud. The anti-Semites seem to have been watching their opportunity, and to have taken good advantage of General Boutterlin's absence on this occasion, while his assistant appears to have been afraid to take any extreme measures on his own responsibility to put down the outbreak.

POLITICAL RUMOUR.

The London correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, writing on Monday night,

I have good reason to believe that the British Commissioners for the negotiation of the French Commercial Treaty have drawn up for communication, not to their French colleagues, but to the French Government, the grounds of their objection to the latest French proposals, and that this very explicit statement will be brought by the Foreign Office to the notice of M. Gambetta for the information of the French Government, in order to invite an intervention should the conclusion of a special treaty appear in spite of existing circumstances desirable. It is not possible to say that any great confidence is felt in a satisfactory result arising from this proceeding. But it may happen that by a direct communication between the two Governments, with knowledge on both sides of the position at which the respective Commissions have arrived, the consequences of ultimate failure to succeed in agreement may be more clearly perceived.

The announcement that Ministers will be in town on Friday has caused some surprise. and it can hardly yet be affirmed with cer-tainty. But Lord Granville, who is in London, is understood to be gravely occupied with the Egyptian question, and, to a certain extent, with the present crisis in the negotiations as to the French Treaty. I believe Lord Granville called upon the Prince of Wales to-day before his Royal Highness left town for Sandringham. The Foreign Secretary, it may be said, is never in London at this time of the recess without there being a strong likelihood of Cabinet Councils being imminent, and, as fully half the members of the Cabinet are in London, the truth of the statement as to Friday next depends mainly upon Mr. Gladstone's personal intentions with regard to returning to London. His presence in Downing-street would not astonish those who are aware that the two great bills for next session - the County Government Bill and the London Government Bill-are in a condition which requires authoritative decision upon points of first-rate importance which cannot be settled by Mr. Dodson or Sir William Harcourt without reference to the Prime Minister. Although these and other bills will not be dealt with by Parliament until the reform of procedure has been disposed of, yet it is said they will be thoroughly prepared in order that the Cabinet may be free to decide whether or not it would be advisable to introduce them before the reform of the rules is undertaken. If it is decided to conclude the debate on the Address before the reform of procedure is taken up, which is most likely, then it might be found desirable to introduce the County Government Bill, in order that it might be printed and circulated for consideration while the reform of the rules was engaging the attention of the House.

The contest in the North Riding of Yorkshire is attracting great attention among politicians in London. It is regarded as important for many reasons. Next session is to be a county session, and besides the question of local government there are so many other questions connected with the counties which are in the horizon of politics. Mr. Rowlandson is eminently a representative displaying careful attention to and knowledge of agricultural interests in connection with railway charges. One of the most important political questions of the moment is whether the county constituencies are really as Liberal and as disposed for reform as they have been thought to be. Members of Parliament who have been a good deal in contact with the North Riding constituency lately say that the only chance of Mr. Rowlandson's failure lies in the fact that there has been no contest in that division since the introduction of the hallot, and that the tenant farmers do not understand the operation of the ballot and have not full confidence in its secrecy. is a feeling the power and extent of which, it is said no one can understand without experience, and no amount of reasoning and explanation will in many cases succeed in establishing confidence in the protection of the ballot until that is reached as the result of successive elections.

There is a good deal of strong feeling ex-

pressed to-day about Egypt, but there is a probability that the public excitement is not reflected in the Foreign Office, where the situation, although serious, does not seem to cause any alarm. This probably arises from the completeness of the understanding which exists between the Governments of England and France. Perhaps a further reason is that the Government do not accept the telegrams relating to the Egyptian "Parliament" as conveying more than the facts of the case really warrant. It is hardly necessary to say that the Egyptian "Parliament" is in the earliest stage of representative development, and is something like what the British Parliament was 700 years ago, when it was a consultative rather than a deliberative body. Further, there is another reason for the comparative calmness of the Government, and it is because there is in official quarters no question whatever as to acceding to the overthrow of the French and English Control by the Committee of Notables, which is styled the Egyptian "Parliament." The Governments are resolved upon the course they will undertake in case of need. Sir Charles Dilke is understood to have discussed the matter fully with M. Gambetta lately. The experience of concerted action by England and France, should that be needful, has not led to the opinion that it presents an insuperable difficulty. It succeeded perfectly under Lord Dufferin in the Lebanon, and it has been effective on more than one occasion in the

THE NEW PARLIAMENTARY RULES. We (Standard) believe that the following are the principal changes in the Rules of the House of Commons which have been under the consideration of the Cabinet. The proposals have not yet been finally settled, probably some modifications may be made before Parliament meets.

It is proposed to limit the number of occasions on which the principle of a Bill may be discussed. At present a debate may be raised on a principle of a Bill on the introduction and first reading-usually, but not necessarily, taken together-the second reading, the motion to go into Committee, the Report, the third reading, and on the question that the Bill do pass. In future the discussion of the principle of a Bill will be confined to the introduction (when, it leave be given, the Bill is to be read a first time, as a matter of course), to the second reading and to the

third reading.
With regard to the power of closing debate it is proposed that the Speaker (or in Committee of the whole House, the Chairman) may, on his own motion or on the demand of a certain number of members, put the proposition that the question then before the House "be now put." On this question no depate is to be allowed, and is at once to be decided by a division. A simple majority, except in certain stated cases, will be sufficient to carry the motion that the question be now put. Th excepted cases will probably include the second reading of a Bill, and Votes of Supply of an unusual character, such as Votes of Credit or Votes of Extraordinary Naval and Military Expenditure, and in these cases a majority of two to one will be required for closing a debate.

Certain classes of bills are to be referred to large select committees, partly nominated by the House and partly by the Committee of Selection; and with regard to these bills the stage of committee in the whole House will be dispensed with. The bills to which this rule will apply will be mainly bills on the

principle of which no great difference of opinion exists, or which involve questions of administration rather than policy. The House itself will have the opportunity of discussing the details of such bills, and of making amendments on the Report.

It is proposed to facilitate proceedings in committee by providing that in committee of the whole House no member shall have power to move more than once, during the debate on the same question, either that the Chairman do report progress, or that the Chairman do leave the Chair, nor to speak more than once to each separate motion; and that no member who has made one of these motions have power to make another on the same question. A resolution to this effect was placed on the paper by Sir S. Northcote in 1879, and the Conservative leaders are, therefore, committed to this proposal.

No member is to have the power of moving the adjournment of the House before the orders of the day or the motions on the paper, as the case may be, have been reached; but a provision will be made for enabling matters of extreme urgency to be brought before the House without notice and without

It will be proposed that when Supply is put down as the first Order of the Day for Monday, the House shall forthwith resolve itself into Committee, without allowing dehate or amendment on the question that the Speaker leave the Chair. It will also be provided that after a certain date (probably the 1st of July), when Supply is put down or any day (except Friday), the same Rule shall

apply.

Provision will be made for giving the Government more complete control of the business on Government nights. At present Orders of the Day must be put first; and if the Government desire to bring on a motion for leave to bring in a bill, or any other motion, they must first move the postponement of the Orders of the Day. This often leads to discussion and waste of time. In future the Government will have absolute power of arranging the business on their own

days.
Some changes will also be proposed with regard to private Memberz' bills. Under the present system, immediately after the opening of the session, every Wednesday up the end of July is practically appropriated. In future, no member will be allowed to fix the second reading of a bill for any day a month beyond its introduction; and probably, after a certain period of the session committees on bills which have been read a second time by a certain proportionate majority will obtain precedence over second readings.

A proposal will be made for the modification of the half-past twelve rule-the rule which prevents official business being taken after half-past twelve. It is not to be applied to the introduction of bills, or to the appointment and nomination of select committees. In future, a notice of opposition, to be effective as a block, will require to be given by a certain number of members, say ten, and the rule also will be made inapplicable to the report and third reading of bills.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, TUESDAY. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove Waterpark. General his Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, K.C.B. and Captain Lord Albert Seymour, Aide-de-Camp to his Serene Highness, arrived at Osborne yesterday. Her Majesty's dinner party in the evening included Princess Beatrice, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Lady Waterpark, the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, the Dowager Countess of Lisburne, Lord Albert Seymour, Major-General Du Plat, and the Master of the Household. The Queen walked out with Princess Beatrice this morning. and visited the Empress Eugénie at Osborne Cottage. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and Lord Albert Seymour have left

A grand meet of the West Norfolk Foxhounds took place at Narboro Hall, Norfolk, on Tuesday. The Prince and Princess of Wales, who were present, were received by Mr. Anthony Hamond, master of the hounds and a large assembly. After partaking of refreshments, both the Prince and Princess hunted. A fox was found at the back of the hall, but the scent was soon lost. A second found near Westacre, went to earth after a moderate run. The day's proceedings were

greatly marred by heavy fog.
His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinourgh visited Peterhead on Tuesday, where he inspected the coastguard and naval re-An address was presented to his serve. Royal Highness by the magistrates and town ouncil, and his visit was made the occasion of a great demonstration of loyalty by the loyal populace. His Royal Highness left for Rathay and Fraserbugh, where he was to be the guest of Lord Saltoun for the evening.

The Duke of Cambridge has arrived at Orwell Park, near Ipswich, on a visit to Colonel Tomline. Count and Countess Batthyany have left

England for Vienna. The funeral of the late Sir Richard Malins is fixed to take place at Bray Church, near Maidenhead, on Saturday next.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE " WORLD.")

It was the Queen's desire that Prince Albert's compositions should be "printed as manuscript," and not circulated. But the manuscript," Prince was so very popular that everything coming from him commands public sympathy So, in consequence of frequent demands, the Queen consented to permit the public sale of the volume. All the grace and melody of a gifted organization, combined with a degree of learning rather rare in an amateur, would render the book valuable even if it was not the work of a Royal musician. With his wellknown amiability he took particular care to make all the songs comfortably easy and not trying as to compass, whereas in the Invocazione all' Armonia he showed himself rather

clever in four-part writing. The late Earl of Beaconsfield's charming country house is not likely to suffer at the hands of its present tenant. Sir Samuel Wilson has brought home from Australia, besides a large fortune, a great admiration for what is historic and venerable in his na-tive land. The house, gardens, and grounds will be kept up with jealous care, and with no stint as to cost. "I feel sure," said Sir Samuel, over the wine and walnuts one day last week, "that I could not have come to any part of England where the country is more beautiful or the surroundings are so pleasant. The first time I saw this district was at the end of summer, when everything was looking its best; and I was so delighted with the drive from Maidenhead to Wycombe, that I felt I had never met, in any part of the world

with scenery more beautiful."

Mr. Austin Mackenzie's spirited undertaking to hunt the South Bucks country with half of the sometime famous O.B.H. pack is yielding abundant satisfaction to sportsmen thereabout. The district has been much neglected; but the tenant farmers are showing an interest in the sport, and foxes are fairly plentiful. Several capital runs have been had recently at Hall Barn and Checquers Court. A grand hunt ball at High Wycombe or Great Marlow is

now on the tapis.

Snipe, once the pièce de résistance of Irish game-bags, were so improved off the face of their native swamps and bogs by the frosts and snows of last year, that the bags made by sportsmen, even in Kerry and Cork, are wretched in comparison with former seasons; fourteen couple being about the best I have heard of in the south-west. Woodcocks,

too, are sadly vanished—on dit blown away by the equinoctial and other later storms! Private theatricals are somewhat the fashion now in Ireland. The Castlenock success, where the Hon. Mr. Gerald Brooke and Mrs. J. Brooke made so favourable an impression on their audience's purses and sympathies, has led to rivalry and imitation; and I hear Johnstown-Kennedy, Sir J. Kennedy's park and mansion, will be festive next week with

amateur actors and actresses. But generally festivities in Ireland are of a lugubrious kind this winter, and very far be-tween. Mr. Kavanagh had fixed for a party at Borris unfortunately on the day of humiliation, and as only short notice of this fast was given, the postponement of the feast caused considerable inconvenience. Lady Frances
Doyne was more fortunate: she gathered the
county Wexford together on Thursday, for a concert the day before that chosen for national grief. But this also was somewhat of a novel nature: the guests, amounting to nearly seventy, arrived at half-past one; music began at once; during an interval, lunch was served; and then the musicians hurried back to their instruments to get through the programme before dusk, the object being to disperse before nightfall, for fear of lurking assassins and stray shots. Night, however, came on apace, and as all the guests joined heartily in "God save the Queen," in the hall, with the windows unclosed, before

festivities near Cork The Royal Irish are having a bad time of it among the daughters of Erin just now. They are compelled to attend the Ladies' Land meetings Sunday after Sunday, and ask the lively young persons who attend them for their names. The mischievous maidens, their names. The mischievous maidens, most of whom have been educated at convent schools, have now taken to answer the Constabulary queries in German French, and even Latin. Under the circumstances the policeman's lot is not a happy one, for polyglot dictionaries are not included in his

starting, it was well no Captain Moonlight

was lurking outside to scatter a few shots

amongst them, as he did at the marriage

The Badminton Club will enter shortly into a new stage of existence. The premises will become the property of the Badminton Club and Residential Chambers Company; and the extensive additions and alterations will be commenced forthwith. At a general meeting of the Club, held last Thursday, and over which the Duke of Beaufort, but for an attack of gout that kept him in Gloucestershire, would have presided, the sums already subscribed were found quite large enough to warrant the new company in beginning operations. The Residential Chambers, in such a situation, are bound to be a great success. There was a very pleasant house-dinner on Thursday evening after the meeting (the Badminton is rather famous for these gatherings), and, under the influence of good-fellowship and a little Giesler and Ayala, " the night was filled with music.

The destructive explosion on board H.M.S. Triumph raises two important questions first, how did xerotine siccative get introduced into the navy? and why was it kept in the paint-storeroom of the ship in direct contra-vention of an order that all inflammable articles are to be placed in the spirit-room? At the official inquiry which the Admiralty will be bound to make into the fatality, prominence must be given to these two points; and upon them may hang a tale. Xerotine siccative has no anti-corrosive properties, is distinct from "patent driers," and is merely used with paint to make the paint dry rapidly; and, if it was issued without the approval of Admiralty experts, it will be no excuse to plead that, upon its explosive quali-ties being discovered, its employment in the navy was discontinued, and the return into

store of unused quantities ordered.
Professor W. B. Richmond is at Hawarden this week painting a portrait of Mr. Glad-stone for Christ Church, Oxford. Besides several fine portraits, a large picture has just been completed by the same artist for the spring exhibition; it represents Prometheus loosened from his fetters by Hercules, while the latter shoots with an arrow the eagle that has been preying upon Prometheus.

Fashion in deformity is a subject so trite, that it has almost ceased to be in any degree sensational, and awakes but a languid interest in the female mind, or in what they are sometimes pleased to call their minds. I hear, however, that Mr. Treves, of the London Hospital, is preparing a series of most harrowing drawings of the results of "tight-lacing," high heels, face-powders, dyes, and pigments, all taken from the life, for the lecture which he is to deliver for the National Health Society on this subject at the Kensington Vestry Hall on February 25, at three o'clock. As every lady who attends will have a prima fac e right to be set down as more or less in the fashion, a large attendance may be expected.

The recent death of Mr. James Wyllie, the tenant of the farm of Mossgiel, near Mauchline, Ayrshire, is noticeable from the fact that he occupied for forty years the land which Burns tilled, being the second tenant after the poet and his brother Gilbert. It was while at Mossgiel that the bard wrote some of his finest productions. The nest of the "wee sleekit, cowrin', tim'rous mouse" was upturned in one of the fields there, and there also the "stern ploughshare drove elate" the daisy's bloom. During Mr. Wyllie's long occupancy thousands of persons from all parts of the world visited the farm, and they always received a most genial welcome. All the local information about his illustrious predecessor was ever cheerfully and readily given by the old man who has just passed away.

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT. An inquest, held on the body of the poor

woman who was poisoned a few days ago by a nurse in Guy's Hospital, reminds us thag hospital management in London is beinr. tardily reformed by means of manslaughtese The coroner and his juries are doing for theor institutions the work which Howard did our gaols. All the efforts of those who, in the face of bitter obloquy, endeavoured to improve the nursing arrangements at Guy's Hospital failed to convince people that it was, as regards these, in a state of sheer lawlessness. "Scandals" and inquests have effected what reasoning, plaint, and pleading failed to accomplish. A new system of nursing was set on foot, and a hospital that had been for years a den of vice and debauchery was partially purified. Nurset were no longer allowed to have their "followers" coming about the place whenever it pleased them to enjoy their society. The patients were not permitted to drive with each other a roaring trade in the stimulants that were lavishly supplied to them, and recklessly left within their reach. Even among the Ward Sisters, "flirtation"-the bane of hospital administration-with the young men on duty was suddenly reduced to a minimum. And yet, vast as is the improvement which has been effected at Guy's by simply introducing a few rudimentary ideas of law, order, and discipline into the nursing organisation, much still remains to be done before the patients can get fairly be done before the patients can get fairly treated. There are, as shown by the evidence laid before the coroner who held the inquest on the body of the woman Bartlett, apparently no fixed rules in the hospital as to matters which do not come within the control of the nursing department, and it is clear that for want of them people are every now and then running the risk of being killed now and then running the risk of being killed in a place to which they have gone to be cured. Many illustrations of the mischief caused by this defect might be given. The other day in Guy's, a lady pupil — the daughter, it may be remarked, of one of the most eminent, not to say fashionable, of living physicians—in-advertently gave a patient a bottleful of carEVENING EDITION.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 17-18, 1882.

THE COMING SESSION. The Prime Minister is to return to town on the 24th inst., and the Cabinet will meet on the following day, which will leave nearly a fortnight available for the discussion of forthcoming measures before the opening of Parliament on the 7th of February. Mr. Gladstone, it is well known, is as eager for the fray, as fresh and vigorous, as abounding in spirit and confidence as if he were a score of years younger. Yet the coming session will witness the completion by him of half a century's Parliamentary service. If he ever entertained the thought of retiring from public life, or even of lightening his labours by removing to the Upper House, a statesman of his peculiar temperament would discover sufficient reasons for changing his mind in the difficulties now confronting his Administration. The state of Ireland is still disquieting, and the influence of Irish politics on the conduct of Parliamentary business is full of grave cause for apprehension. It is true that if the Irish party carry into effect their menace of obstruction during the debate on the Address, there will be some compensation, from a Ministerial point of view, for the inevitable embarrassment and scantial. A renewal of obstructive tactics would furnish the Government with the procedure of the House of Commons. No such incidental advantage-for either party, or for the co tracted from the revival of the weary and painful controversy over Mr. Bradlaugh' claim to be admitted to take the oath as member for Northampton. If the Opposi-

a cogent practical argument for amending tion are wise, they will not waste their powers and damage their credit by prolonging their resistance, which, should party passions be lashed into excitement, may be overcome by the united vote of the Liberal majority. The "previous question" may be used to defeat Sir Stafford Northcote's proposal to exclude Mr Bradlaugh, but many members on both sides have begun to see that it would be the more orderly and decent course to settle the matter by passing a short bill substituting, in the classes of cases to be considered, an affirmation for an oath The Conservatives, in waiving their right to oppose such a measure, would show, in our opinion, both practical judgment and public spirit, though they may not easily induce their younger and more fiery combat-ants to retreat. A far more momentous issue will be raised by the introduction of the Ministerial scheme for the reform of the rules of the House of Commons. It is above all things to be desired that neither party may approach this question in a heated and exasperated temper. The Ministry are bound to give, and, no doubt will give to the subject in all its bearings the fullest and the calmest consideration it must not be supposed that they have resolved to stake everything upon the adoption, absolutely and instantly, of certain unalterable proposals. The Irish Land Bill, as we know, went through more than twenty revisions during its discussion in the Cabinet, and probably some of its clauses were amended at the very last moment. The procedure of Parliament is a subject on which the Government of the day must consult with, and to a large extent, must defer to, public opinion, and especially to that of the House of Commons. The embarrassments with which the Ministry have to deal are frankly recognized by the country, and the arguments in favour of changes, which will not only put down deliberate obstruction, but will expedite the transaction of ordinary business, are generally admitted to be strong. But there is a disinclination, not confined to one party alone, to surrender the securities for free debate without considering whither the change may lead. Some politicians talk glibly of the necessity for "drastic measures," and the cloture by a bare majority has been assumed, without sufficient grounds, to be the instrument the Government will call upon the House of Commons to intrust them with. Many other amendments in the existing procedure of the House have been suggested and some will be certainly proposed. It is likely that with regard to these an agreement may easily be reached, after an interchange of ideas, by the majority of reasonable men on both sides. But with respect to the cloture by a bare majority the case is altogether different. The whole mass of the Opposition will not even consent to look at it as an open question. No reasoning will induce them to concede a remedy which, as they assert, is worse than the disease. Moreover, they will not be without supporters, or, at any rate, sympathisers, on the Liberal Some Radical politicians are known to be as reluctant as the Conservatives themselves to give up to the Government of the day the power of peremptorily putting an end to debate on any subject

whatever. Many other Liberals who see

in "government by discussion" the best

safeguard of freedom are equally hostile to

an incovation that would alter most

seriously the character of Parliament and

the course of English legislation. We are

unable to perceive that the proposed introduction of the cloture pure and simple has

been received with pleasure by the country, and, when it is considered on its merits, we are inclined, after giving all due weight to the arguments urged in its favour, to come to the conclusion that the reasons on the other side turn the scale. The finality of legislative reforms in England, which depends upon the acquiescence of defeated minorities in what has been accomplished, would be destroyed if it could be alleged that discussion had been stifled by the votes of impatient majorities. The discontent of the Opposition might be supressed on great occasions, but it would find opportunities of asserting and avenging itself which would not conduce to the rapid despatch of business. It is obvious that few of the objections to cloture by a bare majority apply to a measure by which the assent of the main body of both parties would be required for the compulsory closing of debate. A majority of two-thirds or three-fourths might be replied upon to join in putting an end to idle and wasteful talk, while it would prevent any allegation that fair discussion had been burked in the interest of a Ministry. The Prime Minister is not likely to ignore the effect of any changes proposed upon the character of the House of Commons. But there are reasons also of practical expediency which, from a party point of view, recommend caution in putting for-ward projects unfamiliar to the English There is no proof that the nation people. There is no proof that the nation has withdrawn its confidence from Mr. Gladstone, in spite of defeats at byelections and municipal gains for Conservatism. There are, however, signs of uneasiness in the political world, which may foreshadow the removal of old party land-marks. There are clouds, too, upon the horizon of foreign affairs. The situation in Egypt is an anxious one. The protracted agony in Ireland and the difficulties in the administration of the Land Act afford matter for scornful or denunciatory criticism. It would be unwise to add to all these dangers the bitterness that would be engendered among Liberals as well as Conservatives if the Ministerial majority, morally weakened by significant defections, were to impose the cloture in its crudest form upon the House of Commons.

THE COMMERCIAL NEGOCIATIONS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the Times

wrote on Tuesday :wrote on Tuesday:—
The Cabinet discussed to-day at great length the Anglo-French Treaty of Commerce. The negotiations, as is known, are being carried on just now at Paris alone between Lord Lyons, M. Gambetta, and the Minister of Commerce. It was thought the matter could thus be expedited by avoiding the delays necessarily resulting from carrying on the negotiations from a distance. Lord Lyons knows perfectly well what are the extreme concessions he can agree to, and on their side the members of the French Cabinet conducting the negotiations know that desire to bring this important question to a satisfactory conclusion, possesses all the ne-cessary elements for doing so, down to the signing of the Treaty. As to the latter point, I think it may now safely be said that a treaty will be signed. The ill-considered propheciers which, since the 1st inst., notwithstanding your repeated assertions, have represented the hopes of concluding a treaty as chimerical, fortunately thus fall to the ground. I say again, what you have said before-viz., that as soon as it appeared to the statesmen of the two countries that the signing of a treaty was for both nations a paramount political necessity, before which considerations of an inferior order ought on both sides to give way, the treaty could be regarded, difficulties of detail notwithstandregarded, difficulties of detail notwithstand-ing, as certain of being concluded after a more or less prolonged interval, but an in-terval which could not be prolonged for ever. This is not the place to discuss which country the conclusion of a treaty most benefits What is certain is that, despite all pretences, the treaty is essential to both nations, because the two nations are essential to each other, and because there is an enormous difference between the relations of two nations making an amicable exchange of their products an the relations of two nations combating each other on the field of industry by every means at their disposal and seeking rather to injure each other than to benefit themselves. Governments must place themselves above narrow passions when international relations are in question. It is, therefore, to be supposed that the members of the two Govern-ments have obeyed this duty; that they have put aside the selfish considerations of those who think only of their personal advantage, and that in the diplomatic negotiations rela-tive to the treaty they are looking only to the absolute necessity of the good and cordial re-lations which may be established between the two nations, economic conflicts

Both sides seem just now disposed to make concessions. The difficulties of details still existing in the question of cottons, woollens, and leather are every day diminishing through compromises and the adoption of new categories; and it is hoped, as I said on Saturday, that it will not be necessary to have recourse to a fresh promugation, now-ever short, of the present treaty. All that is possible will certainly be done to avoid it, for in the advanced state of the negotiations the demand for a fresh prolongation would necessitate either delicate explanations or asiness as to the final result from a refusal of explanations. As, however, there is a desire to arrive at a settlement, but as, despite the utmost goodwill on both sides, all the details might not be adjusted, an application for a prolongation not going beyond the 15th of March at farthest would in that the 15th of March at farthest case be submitted as urgent without giving detailed explanations, but foresha almost a certainty of agreement. It is even said here, though in no spirit of recrimina tion, that the delay might arise from the English Cabinet, which has to decide on a concession on its side on a cer-tain point before a treaty can be signed. What, however, should be especially understood is that the mutual necessity of a treaty is now impressed on every mind; that M. Gambetta, as it is but fair to state, has promptly perceived this necessity; and that, having perceived it, he has exerted the weight peculiar to him in impressing it on his colleagues, who are now as convinced as himself. Within the French Cabinet accordingly the accord is complete, and the diffi-culties of detail which arise are being considered by it, not with the covert design of magnifying them and obstructing the con-clusion of a treaty, but with a firm and unanimous intention of smoothing them down In view of this unanimous resolution, the them and obstructing the con-Ministers intrusted with the negotiations are naturally acting with more confidence and energy, while the English representative on energy, while the English representative on his side is advancing with greater confidence of success. The result may now, therefore, be tranquilly looked forward to. These laborious negotiations, which for ten months have been anxiously watched by all those who regard friendly relations between the two countries as essential to the welfare of both, will end amicably, and whatever un-

foreseen incident may yet gratify alarmists a happy issue may be confidently awaited.

Telegraphing on Tuesday night, the Standard correspondent at Tunis says:—
Last night the Tunisian Minister of War, with two hundred native Cavalry, proceeded to the Palace of Sidi Taieb, the younger to the Palace of Sidi Taieb, the younger to the Palace of Sidi Taieb, the younger brother of the reigning Bey. This morning he was made prisoner, and he is now being con-veyed to the Bardo. The circumstances which have led to this arrest are curious enough. When the French soldiers were engaged with the Kroumirs in April, M. Roustan was making all the necessary arrangements to secure the signature of the Treaty, fearing that, at the last moment, the reigning Bey would take refuge on board some foreign war ship, and thus frustrate the pre-arranged plan. M. Roustan made overtures to Taieb Bey, giving him to understand that he would be the property of the provided he would place him on the throne, provided he would sign the Protectorate Treaty. As in the end the reigning Bey signed the Treaty, and Taieb's services were no longer required, M. Roustan abandoned him, and a good deal of ill-feeling has since existed between his Houstan abandoned him, and a good deal of ill-feeling has since existed between his brother and himself. He in vain appealed to M. Roustan for pretection against his own family. Taleb Bey then openly declared that a well-known lady who has played an important part in the Tunisian question, offered to secure the throne tunisian question, othered to secure the throne to him if he (Taieb Bey) would pay her one and a half millions of francs. M. Roustan never forgave this, and it is well known that the arrest has been effected at his instigation. al had an interview with Taieb Bey three days ago. He told me that he had frequently offered to the French Government to explain

ARREST OF THE BEY'S BROTHER.

LATER. It has transpired that M. Roustan lately pressed the Bey on several occasions to arrest his brother Sidi Taieb, but the Bey declined to assume the responsibility. Yes-terday M. Roustan informed the Bey that the French Government authorised him to take such a step. Avowedly Taieb Bey has been arrested for intriguing against his brother, but the real cause is now of public notoriety. Taieb Bey, who has a French passport, has caused a telegram to be sent to Paris, praying the French Government to allow him to proceed to France and there give any explana-tions that may be required. The affair is causing much excitement here.

what had taken place between himself and

M. Roustan, but without any result; and he

complained that, after being made a tool to bring about the signature of the Treaty, he

treated as an intriguer.

since been completely abandoned and

THE REVOLT IN HERZEGOVINA.

The Vienna correspondent of the Standard telegraphed on Tuesday night:-The first reports which have arrived from the scene of the insurrection consist principally of accounts of small skirmishes and attacks on gendarmes, on the post and on block houses. Cattle robbing has commenced in earnest, and the rebels have made several night attacks on villages. For some time to come the reports from the disturbed districts come the reports from the disturbed districts may be expected to be of a similar character. In this guerilla warfare, as in 1876, bands of insurgents suddenly appear at some unexpected spot, and as suddenly disappear, no one knows whither. According to the latest news there are signs of insurrection only in South-Western Herzegovina. The territory affected extends from Trebinje to Nevesini or the Dring River. The district to Fotcha, on the Drina River. The district forms a semicircle, closely following the Monthere, however, still remain undisturbed. none of the telegraphs or other commu-nications being interrupted, showing that the insurrection is not yet bold enough

to declare itself in the light of day. The fear that the revolt will soon dangerous proportions would be much dimi-nished if it were possible better to guard the Montenegrin frontier, and if there were no signs of a Panslavistic agitation. The papers. however, which have been found not only on the arrested Pero Matanovic, but also on the other insurgents who have been shot or captured prove that Panslavistic agitators are mixed up with the insurgents. The papers are said to point to the dismissed Servian Metropolitan Michael and to M. Aksakoff. They also involve some of the leaders of the Mahometan insurrection after the occupation of Bosnia by the Austrians. Some weeks back I received news from Russia stating that from Odessa to St. Petersburg competent persons, military officers and civil servants, believed war with Austria could not long be avoided. It is quite possible that such an impression is, in its origin, connected with the Panslavastic agitations now known to be going on in Dalmatia and Herzegovina.

Governor Jovanovic's plan in dealing with the insurrection is to surround the disturbed districts by echeloning his troops from Antivari, through Crivoscie, up to Narenta and Drina, cutting off all communications with the outer world, especially with the Novi-Bazar district. This, however, will not be sufficient so long as the Montenegrin frontier remains open. As to the Austrian forces on the spot, there were in December last in Dalmatia ten battalions, and in Bosnia and Herzegovina forty-two battalions of infantry, and seven of Chasseurs, with forty light, sixteen heavy and eighteen mountain guns, and four squad-rons of cavalry. All the battalions were on the peace footing, consisting of three hundred and twenty men each, so that altogether there were twenty thousand men and seventy-four guns in the south-eastern provinces in question. Since then twenty-four battalions of infantry and six of Chasseurs, besides twentyfour guns, have been ordered thither, and have either already arrived, or are at this moment en route. Of these reinforcements seven battalions are for Bosnia, the remainder, numbering together ten thousand men, being echeloned in Herzegovina from Trebinje to Bilek, Gasko, and Fotcha. It is considered that, in order effectively to surround the dis-affected districts, at least twenty thousand more troops will be required. This will raise the total of the forces in Dalmatia and Herzegovina to fifty thousand men.

THE PERSECUTION OF JEWS IN RUSSIA.

The Odessa correspondent of the Times

writes :-I am enabled to send you a word or two of explanation with respect to the Warsaw anti-Jewish riots on Christmas Day from a non-Russian official source. A great deal of blame has been cast upon the Warsaw authorities for not having put an end at once, as they could have easily done, to the disgraceful attacks and acts of pillage which lasted three days. Notwithstanding that in Warsaw and its districts some 60,000 troops were stationed, the rioters were allowed to carry on their murderous and devastating work almost unmolested, owing to the feeble attempts of the police. The fact is that Major-General Boutterlin, the Chief of Police at Warsaw, who has supreme control over the peace of the town, was at that moment in St. Petersburg, and his assistant, Colonel Polinoff, whom he had left in charge, was so upset and undecided that he did nothing but wait for General Boutterlin's return. General Boutterlin at once started back for Warsaw, and his arrival immediately put a stop to the disorders. At the time of the recent anti-Semitic riots at Kieff a corresponding anti-Semitic effervescence was observable among the population of Warsaw, but General Boutterlin at once posted patrols all over the town, and thus effectually nipped the affair in the bud. The anti-Semites seem to have been watching their opportunity, and to have taken good advantage of General Boutterlin's absence on this occasion, while his assistant appears to have been afraid to take any extreme measures on his own responsibility to put down the outbreak.

THE NEW PARLIAMENTARY RULES. We (Standard) believe that the following are the principal changes in the Rules of the House of Commons which have been under the consideration of the Cabinet. The proposals have not yet been finally settled, and probably some modifications may be made before Parliament meets.

It is proposed to limit the number of oc-casions on which the principle of a Bill may be discussed. At present a debate may be raised on a principle of a Bill on the introduction and first reading—usually, but not necessarily, taken together—the second reading, the motion to go into Committee, the Report, the third reading, and on the question that the Bill do pass. In future the discussion of the principle of a Bill will be confined to the intendential them. the introduction (when, it leave be given, the Bill is to be read a first time, as a matter of course), to the second reading and to the third reading.

With regard to the power of closing debate, it is proposed that the Speaker (or in Com-mittee of the whole House, the Chairman) may, on his own motion or on the demand of a certain number of members, put the proposition that the question then before the House "be now put." On this question no debate is to be allowed, and is at once to be decided by a division. A simple majority, except in certain stated cases, will be sufficient to carry the motion that the question be now put. The excepted cases will probably include the second reading of a Bill, and Votes of Supply of an unusual character, such as Votes of Credi or Votes of Extraordinary Naval and Military Expenditure, and in these cases a majority two to one will be required for closing a

Certain classes of bills are to be referred to large select committees, partly nominated by the House and partly by the Committee of Selection; and with regard to these bills the stage of committee in the whole House will be dispensed with. The bills to which this rule will apply will be mainly bills on the principle of which no great difference of opinion exists, or which involve questions of administration rather than policy. The House itself will have the opportunity of discussing the details of such bills, and of making

amendments on the Report.

It is proposed to facilitate proceedings in committee by providing that in committee of the whole House no member shall have power to move more than once, during the debate on the same question, either that the Chairman do report progress, or that the Chairman do leave the Chair, nor to speak more than once to each separate motion that no member who has made one of these motions have power to make another on the same question. A resolution to this effect was placed on the paper by Sir S. Northcote in 1879, and the Conservative leaders are, therefore, committed to this proposal.

No member is to have the power of moving the adjournment of the House before the orders of the day or the motions on the paper, as the case may be, have been reached. but a provision will be made for enabling matters of extreme urgency to be brought before the House without notice and without

It will be proposed that when Supply is put down as the first Order of the Day for Monday, the House shall forthwith resolve itself into Committee, without allowing debate or amendment on the question that the Speaker leave the Chair. It will also be provided that after a certain date (probably the 1st of July), when Supply is put down on any day (except Friday), the same Rule shall

Provision will be made for giving the Go-vernment more complete control of the busi-Government nights. At present Orders of the Day must be put first; and i the Government desire to bring on a motion for leave to bring in a bill, or any other motion, they must first move the postpone-ment of the Orders of the Day. This often leads to discussion and waste of time. future the Government will have absolute power of arranging the business on their own

Some changes will also be proposed with regard to private Members' bills. present system, immediately after the opening of the session, every Wednesday up to the end of July is practically appropriated. In future, no member will be allowed to fix the second reading of a bill for any day month beyond its introduction; and pro-bably, after a certain period of the session ittees on bills which have been read a second time by a certain proportionate majority will obtain precedence over second readings.

A proposal will be made for the modification of the half-past twelve rule—the rule which prevents official business being taken after half-past twelve. It is not to be applied to the introduction of bills, or to the appointment and nomination of select committees. In future, a notice of opposition, to be effective as a block, will require to be given by a certain number of members say ten, and the rule also will be made in-applicable to the report and third reading of bills.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE " WORLD.")

It was the Queen's desire that Prince Albert's compositions should be "printed a and not circulated. But the Prince was so very popular that everything coming from him commands public sympathy. So, in consequence of frequent demands, the Queen consented to permit the public sale of the values All the results of the public sale of the volume. All the grace and melody of gifted organization, combined with a degree of learning rather rare in an amateur, would render the book valuable even if it was not the work of a Royal musician. With his well-known amiability he took particular care to make all the songs comfortably easy and not trying as to compass, whereas in the Invoca-zione all' Armonia he showed himself rather clever in four-part writing.

The late Earl of Beaconsfield's charmin

country house is not likely to suffer at the hands of its present tenant. Sir Samue Wilson has brought home from Australia besides a large fortune, a great admiration tive land. The house, gardens, and ground will be kept up with jealous care, and with no stint as to cost. "I feel sure," said Sin stint as to cost. "I feel sure," said Si Samuel, over the wine and walnuts one day "that I could not have come to an part of England where the country is more beautiful or the surroundings are so pleasant.
The first time I saw this district was at the end of summer, when everything was looking its best; and I was so delighted with the drive from Maidenhead to Wycombe, that felt I had never met, in any part of the world with scenery more beautiful."

Mr. Austin Mackenzie's spirited undertaking to hunt the South Bucks country with half o the sometime famous O.B.H. pack is yielding abundant satisfaction to sportsmen thereabout The district has been much neglected; but the tenant farmers are showing an interest in the sport, and foxes are fairly plentiful. Soveral capital runs have been had recently at Hall Barn and Checquers Court. A grand hunt ball at High Wycombe or Great Marlow is now on the tanis.

Snipe, once the pièce de résistance of Irish ame-bags, were so improved off the face of their native swamps and bogs by the frosts and snows of last year, that the bags made by sportsmen, even in Kerry and Cork, are wretched in comparison with former seasons fourteen couple being about the best I have heard of in the south-west. Woodcocks, too, are sadly vanished—on dit blown away by the equinoctial and other later storms

Private theatricals are somewhat the fashion now in Ireland. The Castlenock success. where the Hon. Mr. Gerald Brooke and Mrs J. Brooke made so favourable an impression

on their audience's purses and sympathies, has led to rivalry and imitation; and I hear Johnstown-Kennedy, Sir J. Kennedy's park and mansion, will be festive next week with

and mansion, will be testive next week with amateur actors and actresses. But generally festivities in Ireland are of a lugubrious kind this winter, and very far be-tween. Mr. Kavanagh had fixed for a party at Borris unfortunately on the day of h tion, and as only short notice of this fast was given, the postponement of the feast caused considerable inconvenience. Lady Frances Doyne was more fortunate: she gathered the county Wexford together on Thursday, for a concert the day before that chosen for national grief. But this also was somewhat of a novel grief. But this also was somewhat of a novel nature: the guests, amounting to nearly seventy, arrived at half-past one; music began at once; during an interval, lunch was served; and then the musicians hurried back to their instruments to get through the programme before dusk, the object being to disperse before nightfall, for fear of lurking assassins and stray shots. Night, however, came on apace, and as all the guests joined heartily in "God save the Queen," in the hall, with the windows unclosed, before starting, it was well no Captain Moonlight was lurking outside to scatter a few shots amongst them, as he did at the marriage festivities near Cork.

The Royal Irish are having a bad time of it among the daughters of Erin just now They are compelled to attend the Ladies Land meetings Sunday after Sunday, and ask the lively young persons who attend them for their names. The mischievous maidens, most of whom have been educated at convent schools, have now taken to answer the Constabulary queries in German French, and even Latin. Under the circumstances the policeman's lot is not a happy one, for polyglot dictionaries are not included in his

The Badminton Club will enter shortly into a new stage of existence. The premises will become the property of the Badminton Club and Residential Chambers Company; and the extensive additions and alterations will be commenced forthwith. At a general meeting of the Club, held last Thursday, and over which the Duke of Beaufort, but for an attack of gout that kept him in Gloucestershire, would have presided, the sums already subscribed were found quite large enough to warrant the new company in beginning operations. The Residential Chambers, in such a situation, are bound to be a great success. There was a very pleasant house-dinner or Thursday evening after the meeting (the Badminton is rather famous for these gatherings), and, under the influence of good-fellowship and a little Giesler and Ayala, " the night

was filled with music. The destructive explosion on board H. M.S. Triumph raises two important questions: first, how did xerotine siccative get introduced into the navy? and why was it kept in the paint-storeroom of the ship in direct contra-vention of an order that all inflammable articles are to be placed in the spirit-room? At the official inquiry which the Admiralty will be bound to make into the fatality, prominence must be given to these two points; and upon them may hang a tale. Xerotine siccative has no anti-corrosive properties, is dis-tinct from "patent driers," and is merely used with paint to make the paint dry rapidly; and, if it was issued without the approval of Admiralty experts, it will be no excuse to plead that, upon its explosive quali-ties being discovered, its employment in the navy was discontinued, and the return into

store of unused quantities ordered. Professor W. B. Richmond is at this week painting a portrait of Mr. Glad-stone for Christ Church, Oxford. Besides several fine portraits, a large picture has just been completed by the same artist for the spring exhibition; it represents Prometheus loosened from his fetters by Hercules, while the latter shoots with an arrow the eagle that

has been preying upon Prometheus.

Fashion in deformity is a subject so trite. that it has almost ceased to be in any degree sensational, and awakes but a languid terest in the female mind, or in what they are sometimes pleased to call their minds. hear, however, that Mr. Treves, of the London Hospital, is preparing a series of most harrowing drawings of the results of "tight-lacing," high heels, face-powders, dyes, and pigments, all taken from the life, for the lecture which he is to deliver for the National Health Society on this subject at the Kensington Vestry Hall on February 25, at three o'clock. As every lady who attends will have a prima facie right to be set down as more or less in the fashion, a large attend

ance may be expected.

The recent death of Mr. James Wyllie, the enant of the farm of Mossgiel, near Mauchline, Ayrshire, is noticeable from the fact that he occupied for forty years the land which Burns tilled, being the second tenant after the poet and his brother Gilbert. It was while at Mossgiel that the bard wrote some of his finest productions. The nest of the wee sleekit, cowrin', tim'rous mouse upturned in one of the fields there, and there also the "stern ploughshare drove elate" on the daisy's bloom. During Mr. Wyllie's long occupancy thousands of persons from all parts of the world visited the farm, and they always received a most genial welcome. All the local information about his illustrious predecessor was ever cheerfully and readily given by the old man who has just passed away.

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT.

An inquest, held on the body of the poor woman who was poisoned a few days ago by a nurse in Guy's Hospital, reminds us that ospital management in London is being tardily reformed by means of manslaughter The coroner and his juries are doing for these institutions the work which Howard did in our gaols. All the efforts of those who, in the face of bitter obloquy, endeavoured to improve the nursing arrangements at Guy's Hospital failed to convince people that it was as regards these, in a state of sheer lawless-"Scandals" and inquests have effected what reasoning, plaint, and pleading failed to accomplish. A new system of nursing was set on foot, and a hospital that had been for years a den of vice and debauchery was partially purified. Nurses were no longer allowed to have their "folcoming about the place whenever it pleased them to enjoy their society. The patients were not permitted to drive with each other a roaring trade in the stimulants that were lavishly supplied to them, and recklessly left within their reach. Even among the Ward Sisters, "flirtation"—the bane of hospital administration—with the young men on duty was suddenly reduced to provement which has been effected at Guy's by simply introducing a few rudimentary ideas of law, order, and discipline into the nursing organisation, much still remains to before the patients can get fairly There are, as shown by treated. dence laid before the coroner who held the inquest on the body of the woman Bartlett, apparently no fixed rules in the hospital as to matters which do not come within the control of the nursing department, and it is clear that for want of them people are every now and then running the risk of being killed in a place to which they have gone to be cured. Many illustrations of the mischief caused by this defect might by given. The other day in Guy's, a lady pupil — the daughter, it may be remarked, of one of the most eminent, not to say fashionable, of living physicians-inadvertently gave a patient a bottleful of cars bolic acid. But for her good luck the result would have been fatal, and she would probably have had to stand a criminal trial Why, we may well ask, did this occur Simply because "the management" at Guy's could not be induced to have poison-bottles

so coloured and fluted that it would be impossible to mistake them for bottles containing innocuous drugs. They have been brought to see the desirability of having this done now, and within the present month poisons in solution are ordered in Guy's Hospital to be put into special phials. But, ere this in solution are ordered in Guy's Hospital to be put into special phials. But, ere this simple plan could be adopted, it was necessary for a nurse of high family connections to bring an unlucky patient under her care to the very verge of death, and herself almost to the very doors of the Old Bailey. The partisans of the old order, however, were able to comfort themselves with the reflection that comfort themselves with the reflection that comfort themselves with the reflection that there were still preserved infinite chances of killing people by "misadventure;" for the poisons in the form of powders were not affected by this change; they were, as formerly, to be made up so that it was quite easy to give one of them to a sick person instead of the curative drug ordered for him or her. Now these worshippers of a swittyher. Now these worshippers of a swiftly-vanishing Past are to be driven from another stronghold. A nurse has killed a woman by giving her a morphia for a quinine powder; and henceforth we are assured that poisonous and non-poisonous powders will in Guy's Hospital be no longer packed so that they cannot be readily distinguished by the eye. In dealing with this case it is odd to notice how the two people who are censured by the coroner's jury are the only two who foresaw the danger, and made the least effort to ward it off. The Sister, knowing that the custom of keeping all medicines, and hurtful, on the same bracket, above the patient's bed, was a perilous one, removed the morphia powders, in this instance, for greater safety to a basket on the table, from which the nurse who took them had no business to take them. The mistake of the Ward Sister lay in not locking the powders up in her own room, which, though a violation of the prevailing usage, would at any rate have made an accident impossible. The dispenser, again, alarmed at the mon-strous strength of the morphia powders they were in ten-grain doses-made inquiry if they were really to be prepared of that strength, and was told for his pains to carry out his orders. He was, however, censured because he did not make them up in a spe-cially coloured packet; the fact being that he had no such packets supplied to him; and that if he had put them into such a packet it would have made no difference, as there existed no rule indicating that powders in coloured packets must be considered poisonous. It is, in fact, no good trying to attach blame to any individual in a matter like this, when we find that the more we endeavour to fix the real responsibility for these mishaps, the more forcibly are we driven to the conclusion that the phrase, "no rule," accounts for them all. It may be there sometimes is a rule; but in that case it is found to be a dead letter, or to be replaced by a slatternly "custom" or a stupid tradition. We do not "custom" or a stupid tradition. We do not suppose, for example, there is, in Guy's, any rule which directly authorizes a buy's. to prescribe five grains of opium to a patient on his own responsibility; or to order copious libations of beer to drunkards who are admitted to the accident ward; or to put a great number of patients upon a diet that is not only unnecessary and ridiculously expensive, but hardly procurable, even by the most luxurious sybarites. Yet these things can be done, and have actually been done, in Guy's Huspital; and they will be done again, unless something like law and discipline are enforced expensive subordinates of the readies. forced among the subordinates of the medical officers, as they have been recently enforced, to some extent, among the nurses .- World.

A DAY'S COURSING.

Spring is everywhere, save in the calendar. Already the coursing season, the six months beginning with September, is more than half way through; already the hares seem to run sluggishly over the heavy ground. They are as though enervated by the preternatural warmth of the day, and the first of them falls an easy victim to the favourite's jaws. judge in scarlet waves a white handkerchief, the shouting of the betting-ring is stilled, and, no doubt in accordance with the old instructions, "he that comes in first takes her up and saves her from breaking; he cherishes the dogs and cleanses their mouth from wool. He is adjudged to have the hare for pains." Further, he gives them (or, at least, should so) the liver and lights for their encouragement, leads them away and has their feet washed in butter and beer. Nowadays, it must be remembered, the distinctive trait of coursing, or at any rate of public coursing, is the trial between two dogs and not the capture of the hare. Speed and endurance are the only points to which the modern breeders pay attention, and the greyhound at present in use would be more likely to be carried away by the deer than have any chance of bringing it down. The shouting of the ring recalls me from his-torical reflections. "Even money Middletorical reflections. "Even money ton" and "the odds i'll take "are reminders that the innocent and friendly character of the sport is fled, the squire and his galloping neighbours are no more, and in their place there is the scientific trainer and his backers, and all the wellknown irresponsible crowd who make a pro-fession of hunting after "that fero-cious beast, the crown-piece." The crowd here is composed of elements familiar to those who have ever attended a suburban race meeting. Chief of all the betting men, bawling, blustering, and bullying. The ground is so damp and muddy that the majority have provided themselves with boxes, whence they deal with their clients with an elevated air, which it would be well if their moral character possessed. They stand on their boxes with a humble assistant by their side, whom they have in most cases considerately provided with leggings, as some protection against the mud, and there they busily take the shillings and half-crowns, occasionally pausing to excite admiration by ostentatiously paying a confederate ten or twenty pounds in flash notes. It gives the bystanders an immense idea of their integrity thus to view them part with their money without a sign of agitation or distress; it so inspires a young man with a young beard that he hopefully deposits thirty shillings, which he incontinently loses. The boxes appear to be empty wine cases provided from he refreshment tent; one, however, knowing the ground, has taken the precaution to bring is own grand stand with him, and I overheard a neighbour wagering as to whether it is or is not a child's coffin. As a matter of fact there can be no doubt that it is an old boot box, once in the service of the London Shoeblack Brigade. Immediately in rank below these, the more fortunate and aspiring members of the fraternity, there come the umbrella men, those whose only initiatory process appears to be that they plant an umorella in the mud, and at once begin to shout in some cases they bring with them bottled In some cases they bring with them bottled beer, with which they regale their friends, using the handle of the umbrella as a peg for the empty glass, a kind of rough-and-ready sign that "here one may be welshed." Like the shepherds of the East, they are constantly changing their ground; but whether for luck, as chairs are turned at cards, or because they have exhausted the credulity of their immediate neighbourhood, I cannot tell. For whatever reason it may be, the change for whatever reason it may be, the change does not in all cases appear to work; for I observe one or two of them outside the ground evidently incapacitated for further speculation, endeavouring to open negotia-tions with the butcher's boy, who has pulled his cart up to enjoy a distant view sport. Lowest in the scale lies the wanderer, ne who wins your confidence by his readiness to impart valuable information, one who makes his calculations on a dirty card, and never ventures higher than in half-crowns. He is here, there, and everywhere, by your side, and in a moment gone-a picker-up of

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NOTICE.

A four-page Supplement is published with Chis day's number of the MESSENGER. and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 18-19, 1882. INTRIGUE AND DISTURBANCE IN Difficulties grow upon Austria as she endeavours to bring within the general system of the Empire her new eastern possessions. They are not gratuitous difficulties like those in which France has entangled herself in North Africa, against the advice of her true friends and by that of her rival. Austria, in accepting the trust of Europe at Berlin to restore tranquillity in Bosnia and Herzegovina, kwew the heaviness of the task. She knew that the soil was sown with dynamite. The dangers which lay on the surface were not likely to be the worst. Equally it may be believed that wild exaggerations have been current on the exigencies to be met and the preparations in process with which to encounter them. No formed design, it may be taken for granted, exists. on the side either of Paussia or of Turkey to raise Bosnia and Horzegovina in general rebellion. That a my principle, Panslavism or another, should discover foothold enough in the chaos of Bosnia and Herzegovina to use a lever against settled methods of administration is surprising. That Russia, still mighty though a prey to all kinds of tribulations and anxieties, should he ve forces to spare for operations outside is less amazing in view of the resour ces our Constantinople Correspondent shows to be wielded by the tottering O'ctoman Empire as the representative of Panislamism. In Bosnia and Herzegovina Panslavism, from its home in Russia, continues potent. Though it is anticipated that the Mussulman landowners will throw their weight in the scale against the Austrian conscription, Panislamism has not erected its head there. In Asia and North Africa it is as eager and combative as Panslavism in Eastern Our correspondent traces its original birth to Mecca, and its present domicile to the Sultan's palace. Despairing of a recovery of his lost possessions in Europe, hopeless of protection from the Western Powers, fearing a pretender to his throne among the devout believers in Arabia, Abdul Hamid has screened the Sultan behind the Caliph, and unfurled in spirit the standard of the Prophet. Our correspondent derides the fancy that the house of Othman will ever be able to reconstruct the edifice of Mussulman supremacy. The attempt might not be absolutely futile had an Ottoman sovereign the virtue or the vigour to compel his Court, himself, and his provincial delegates to rule, and to rule with justice. Internal reform is treated by Abdul Hamid as impracticable. To English expostulations he answers that reforms imply arduous legislative work and profound administrative changes. He expects Lord Dufferin to believe that a new system of jurisprudence is needed to punish a Cadi for taking bribes and a Pacha for extortion. Not new laws and administrative machinery are necessary, but the will to insist upon the working of the old according to their intention. So long as not a single step, beyond waste-paper decrees, is taken infuse uprightness and equity Ottoman administration, prospect of a Panislamist policy is a shadowy dream. Yet Panslavism, issuing from the social turmoil of Russian Nihilism and anti-Semitic fanaticism with energy still to embroil Eastern Europe, is a proof that Panislamism is not to be measured as an influence for destruction by this incapacity to animate and revivify. Instruments abound everywhere. career is open for talents in the Ottoman Empire and its dependencies, except administrative tyranny and Palace intrigues. A religious propaganda stimulates the Oriental imagination and promises rich rewards. Egypt and Tunis have already indicated that opportunities are discoverable for its display. Others may present themselves or be made. Our correspondent denies that this formidable weapon was invented by Abdul Hamid. It was in the air ready to pierce his breast; he preferred the alternative of brandishing it himself. But Abdul Hamid, though not its maker, has qualities which fit him to

use it with effect. He is endowed with

the gifts of patience, a discernment of in-

ternational weaknesses, and a royal de-

Panislamist propaganda conducted by him

might not inconceivably plunge Europe in

discord. It is for Europe to consider

whether it will consent to suffer such an

evil. Were it possible for the flag of

Panislamism to regenerate the large

expanse of the world which professes

faith in the Koran, sympathy with the movement could not be withheld even

by Christendom. A scruple might be felt at

endeavouring to check a generous impulse.

On the contrary, the vague visions the

agitation conjures up only lead the Mussul-

man world astray from the one path at the

end of which are prosperity and vitality.

Panislamism and its professors have neve

advanced a pace towards realising for in-

dividuals or populations the good of which

Mahomedianism is capable. Great Britain has no fear for herself of the confusion

and feuds Panislamism might produce in

her Indian Empire. She laments for the

Sultan and his actual subjects that their

energies should be thrown away upon

ambitions which, were they ever so fully

successful to the injury of their neigh-

bours, could not profit themselves. Should

German diplomatic ingenuity, and the

impetus which comes of the novelty around

it, be exerted to make a tool of Ottoman

imaginings for political manœuvres among

European complications, England would

be less indignant at possible inconveni-

ences to herself than astonished at an

illustrious statesman's delusion that he

can warm himself in a burning house and

not be singed. That, however, is for the

German Chancellor to meditate. England,

he may be sure, will not put herself

within reach of the flames to prove her

equality with him in nimbleness at evading

termination not to be mediatized.

BARGAINING FOR COMMERCIAL TREATIES.

In spite of the anxious attempts of Ministerialists to make out at the time the Joint Note was despatched that it was all over with the Commercial Treaty, it appears that negotiations are still informally going on; and we are even assured in one quarter that their ultimate success is certain. This revival of anticipation of course coincides quite accidenally with the aggravation of the Egyptian difficulty and the increased urgency of maintaining an accord between the two signatories of the Note. No doubt it is only another instance of that "pre-established harmony" of which we are promised an illustration by the French and English tariffs if the treaty is concluded. It was fore-ordained that just when the English Government should begin to be doubtful as to how far they could go with France in Egypt the French Government should begin to see their way to admitting English woollens into France on better terms than they originally offered; there is no connection by way of cause and effect between the two phenomena. This, at least, is what we shall expect to hear from the more judicious partisans of the English Government, few of whom are likely to imitate the candour with which the subject is treated by the Paris correspondent of the Times. But we have no doubt at all that what comes out in the statement of that valuable intermediary between Governments is the real truth of the matter. He, it will be seen, is superior to any prudish pretences of excluding political considerations from the bargain. The statesmen of the two countries are of opinion, he tells us, " that the signing of a treaty is for both nations a paramount political necessity, before which considerations of an inferior order ought to give way;" and what he means by "considerations of an inferior order" he lets us very plainly see. They are neither more nor less than those considerations of commercial advantage by which alone the negotiators of a commercial treaty ought to permit their action to be guarded. They are the very subjectmatter, and should be the whole and sole subject-matter of the negotiations. The question, however, we are now told, is to be settled apart from its only relevant elements. It is to be settled on the basis of la haute politique; which means, in other words, that the French, who cannot be got to see any attractiveness in our offers from a commercial point of view, can be induced to regard them in a different light with certain political advantages thrown Whether a treaty will be concluded on these terms it is too early perhaps to say with confidence; but it is quite as likely as not that it will be: and most mischievous will be its example if it is. What will have happened will be this: that the Government, foreseeing in the failure of the treaty negotiations a discredit to their diplomacy, loss and confusion to English trade, industrial suffering and discontent, and all the embarrass ments to themselves which these things imply, will have simply compounded for their escape from such evils by trafficking with the political interests of the country, bartering away its freedom of political action, or even, as in the present case, committing it to a partnership in perilous political adventures. Nor can this be called a casual and exceptional, if untoward incident of commercial treatymaking; on the contrary, the risk of its recurrence is a permanent risk, arising as it does out of the permanent relation in which we stand to other countries as the sole free-trader in a community of protectionists. Unable from the nature of the case to convince our neighbours of their reciprocal interest in free admission of our manufactures, and having little or nothing left to offer them in the way of a reduction of our own duties, we are likely to be more and more often compelled to open our political wallet in order to effect "a deal" at all. And already, therefore, it is not too soon perhaps to ask what sort of 'free trade" that is in which we have to purchase a market for our goods at the cost of our political interest, and even, it may be, the safety of our empire.—St.

PANISLAMISM AND THE CALIPHATE.

The following is an extract from a long letter which the Times publishes from its

Constantinople correspondent :—
Panislamism and Panslavism have a certain external resemblance. Both have a double aim—that of renovating the native institutions n accordance with certain old principles, and of extending the influence of the country to foreign populations. For the first of these the Sultan looked about for an energetic Mussulman reformer, and imagined he had found one that would suit him in Khaireddin Pacha, who had written a book on "Progress in Mussulman States," and who was warmly recommended by Sheik Zaffer. Khaireddin had some of the requisite qualities. He had acquired, it was thought, all the learning of the Giaours without ceasing to be a devout Mussulman, and could speak to be a devoit mussulman, and could speak eloquently on the possibility of combining Western civilisation with the true fundamen-tal principles of Islam. As Prime Minister to the Bey of Tunis, he had shown himself to be an able, energetic administrator, and he had the reputation of being pecuniarily honest. Though a Circassian by birth, he was an Arab by language and sympathy, and he might, consequently, co-operate in bringing about the desired reconciliation between the Arabic and Turkish elements of the popula-Above all, Khaireddin was a stranger, and might, therefore, be, it was assumed, the

docile instrument of the Imperial will. These expectations were not realized. Khaireddin did not display the wonderful abilities with which he had been credited, and soon acquired the reputation of being a self-willed, arrogant ambitious man, who wished views. He was accordingly dismissed, and the grand schemes for giving a semi-Arabic character to the Government and of introducing radical reforms in harmony with the fundamental principles of Islam were abandoned. A more supple, and in every way more convenient, instrument was found in Said Pacha, and the home policy was confined to the state of the said Pacha. fined to strengthening the Mussulman element, suppressing the aspirations of the Christian nationalities, and making attempts towards

iberating the Government from all foreign nfluence or control. The schemes of foreign propaganda were less ephemeral than the projects of internal reform. Personages of distinction in all reform. Personages of distinction in all parts of the Mussulman world were encouraged to visit Constantinople, and those of them who came here received a liberal hose of them who came here received a liberal hose of the standard of the control of t pitality and marked consideration. At the same time agents were sent to Mussulman countries far and near to propagate the idea that the Sultan as Caliph was the chief and protector of all true Mussulmans. As in the Catholic world, the veneration for the Pope is generally in the ratio of the distance from

Rome, so in Islam the moral influence of the Sultan is in the ratio of the distance from Constantinople. The propaganda, therefore,

Constantinople. The propaganda, therefore, had at first most success in outlying regions which had never had any practical acquaintance with Turkish administration, and especially among the Mussulmans of India, for whose spiritual enlightenment a special organ in the Urdu language, called the Peik Islam, was founded in Constantinople. In Afghanistan the propaganda was, strange to say, encouraged by England. A special Envoy of the Sultan was sent to Cabul on the recommendation of the British Government to warn Shere Ali against too intimate relations with Russia, and on his return to Constantinople he related how the people had crowded round him in order to have the honour of touching the garment of an envoy of the Caliph. In the Hedjaz and Egypt the propaganda was for a time energetically resisted by Hussein, the Grand Shereef of Mecca, and by Ismail Pacha, the Khedive; but both these obstacles were soon removed. Hussein was assassinated by a mysterious dervish, and Ismail, having got into difficulties with the Anglo-French Financial Control, was summarily deposed. From that moment the Caliphate idea has made rapid progress on the eastern coast of the Red Sea and in the valley In the lands which formerly composed the Western Caliphate, the Sultan's efforts were not at first crowned with so much success. The "Moghrebin," or Westerns, had always preferred independent native misrule to Cali-phal authority, and they seemed resolved to follow their ancient traditions in spite of the efforts of the Senussi sect and other emissaries; but their dispositions were entirely changed by the French invasion of Tunis. That untoward event aroused the dorman hatred of the infidel, and transformed from a

> The danger of these pretensions in the West as in the East does not, of course, lie in any probability of the Sultan being able to create a vast Panislamic Empire. Such a project is too wild to be seriously entertained, even by such political dreamers as the intri-guers of Yildiz Kiosk. What we have to fear is that the Mussulmans who live beyond the limits of the Ottoman Empire and who owe allegiance to Sovereigns other than Abdul Hamid should be brought under the influence of Constantinople, and that this influence should be used at critical moments to produce popular sedition and insurrection. We have an example of this at present in Tunis and Southern Algeria, and we may have some day a more terrible example of it in India. It is, in short, not as a creative, but as a destruc-

harmless theory into a very dangerous reality

the Sultan's Caliphal pretensions with regard

to Northern Africa.

tive, force that Panislamism is to be feared.

Among European statesmen the first to perceive the practical political advantage that could be derived from Panislamism was Prince Bismarck. He understood that if German influence were paramount at Constantinople, he would have in his possession a means of bringing pressure to bear on all States having man subjects, and that he could thereby make himself one of the chief factors in the Eastern Question, in the widest sense of that elastic term, without sacrificing-to use one of his own graphic expressions—"the bones of a single Pomeranian Grenadier." If he succeeds in coming to terms with the Pope he will have in some respects at his disposal the two great spiritual powers of Christendom and Islam. We must not, however, exaggerate the utility of this master-stroke of din It may possibly help him to consolidate his sition in Germany, and enable him to check or a time the politique de revanche in France by occupying a portion of the French army in Africa; but it is a policy far too complicated to have much chance of ultimate success. With regard to the Mahomedan portion of it, the German Chancellor will find the Sultan a most inconvenient and compromising ally, and those who know Turkey best will not be surprised to see the present infatuation for Germany transformed before long into a feeling of a very different kind.

THE POWERS AND EGYPT. The Standard has received the following

telegrams from its Alexandria and Con stantinople correspondents:-

ALEXANDRIA. WEDNESDAY NIGHT Rumours are circulating to-night on the Bourse to the effect that the fall of the Ministry is imminent. Should these prove true, it certain that it will call forth energetic action from England and France in favour of the Khedive and Cherif Pacha. The Chamber of Deputies, supported by the military element, continues to insist upon its decisions. The Khedive's position is most difficult. The material support of the English and French Governments is necessary in order to assert his authority and that of his Government. Cherif Pacha and the whole of his Ministers, except the Minister of War and Marine, are in perfect accord with the Khedive. The War Minister and Arabi Bey have visited the military station at the citadel of Abbasieh, with a view to ascertain its capacity to receive new regiments of Egyptian troops to be created. The weak and vacillating policy of the British Government is much commented on by all classes of Englishmen and foreigners here. The Khedive, it is considered, merits every support and consideration at the hands of England and France.

CONSTANTINOPLE, WEDNESDAY NIGHT. It is well known here that the other Great owers blame severely the action taken by France and England in addressing the Note to the Khedive, which they consider more kely than anything else to provoke disorder in Egypt. It is not improbable that the Powers in question—namely, Germany, Austria, Russia, and Italy—will address a Note to the French and English Cabinets, formally expressing their regret at their having interfered in the internal affairs of Turkey without first consulting the Government of that country, and giving the two Cabinets to understand that if any action was considered necessary or advisable, it ought to have partaken of an international character; that i to say, that all the Powers should have had

voice in the matter.

An incident has arisen between the Turkish Government and the French Embassy here, which, whilst putting to the test the validity of the Bardo Treaty, is not likely to improve the present somewhat strained relations existing between the two Governments Some time ago a Tunisian arrived here and duly registered himself at the French Consulate as a subject of the Republic, in conformity with the said Treaty. Subsequently he entered into a contract with the Prefecture at Stamboul with the nature of which it is not necessary to deal here. It will suffice to say that the conditions of the arrangement, according to the Tunisian, were not properly carried out by the other party, and finding he could not secure redress, he lodged a formal complaint at the French Embassy. Finally, an action was brought against the Prefecture by the Tunisian before a Court called the Tidjuret Tribunal, constituted expressly to hear cases in which foreigners and Turkish subjects are engaged, the complainant being, as is the custom where foreigners are concerned, attended by a dragoman of his Embassy. The tribunal, after much consultation, declared itself incompetent to deal with the case without first consulting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Accordingly the matter was submitted to Assym Pacha, who in due course replied to the effect that before giving his decision it was first of all necessary to establish the nationality of the complainant, for if the latter should prove to be a native of Tunis the Turkish Government could not admit his

right to foreign protection and to the privi-leges granted to foreign subjects under capi-tulation—meaning, of course, the presence at the trial of a dragoman of the French Em-

bassy. The French authorities, of course, look upon this as a direct attempt by the Porte to ignore the Bardo Treaty, which they cannot tolerate, so that the Embassy has taken

the matter rather warmly.

The Daily News says:—A well-informed correspondent at Cairo writes to us:—We are still in the same position as on the 9th September. There is no force to govern the army, and the loyalty of the troops is not to be trusted for a moment. I know as a fact that lately, whilst professing perfect obe-dience, they gave Cherif Pacha to understand that it would be useless their receiving orders to go to the Soudan. Many think Arabi will change all this, having taken office. I do not. I think he will lose caste, and that the movement is too strong for him. The Chamber has rewarded the Khedive's confidence in it by insisting on the control of the finances. Of course, Sir A. Colvin and M. de Blignières are firm, but the worst feature in the case is that the Chamber relies on the army. If the situation were even on the way of being settled, what need of these frequent despatches? and if, as I maintain, there is nothing settled, despatches alone will not do. It is very well to keep on saying, "We will not allow Turkish interference, and no other Power must have any voice in Egypt;' Turkey is interfering, other Powers are doing no good here, and the disease is becoming more complicated. England and France are quite in accord as long as they do not interfere materially; but natives and Europeans see that the moment action is necessary the political troubles will begin, much to the delight of Italy, Austria, and Germany. The solution has doubtless been seriously considered, and one can only suppose it will be forthcoming, or it is useless to threaten. I do not naturally take gloomy views, but I must admit not being able to see daylight as we are going on.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, WEDNESDAY. The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely and the Hon. Victoria Baillie: and her Majesty walked this morning with Princess Beatrice. Lady Abercromby has succeeded Lady Waterpark as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. Lieutenant-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry and the Hon. Lady Ponsonby had the honour of dining with the Queen yester-

The Prince of Leiningen and Viscount and Viscountess Sydney have arrived at Sandringham on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Great excitement prevailed throughout the town of Macduff during Wednesday morning on account of the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh, who passed through the town to in-spect the coastguard at Banff. By half-past ten o'clock nearly the whole of the popula-tion was assembled on the shore to welcome him. He was escorted by the town council, Freemasons, and volunteers, who acted as a guard of honour. A few hundred yards from the town the horses were unyoked by his permission and the carriage was drawn by the fishermen to Banff Bridge. School children and the general public brought up the rear. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed. After leaving Banff by train his Royal Highness drove to Buckie, halting at Cullen House to take luncheon. After a minute inspection of the coastguard station and coastguard house at Buckie, the Duke Sheriffston, arriving at Elgin at seven o'clock. The city was most elaborately decorated and illuminated, His Royal Highness was met by the Lord Provost and the town council at the boundary site of the city, where the Pro-vost was introduced by Commandant Dolphin. From thence the procession proceeded past the famous Elgin Cathedral, which was lighted up by Bengal lights, and up the High-street, which was most tastefully decorated with different devices, which, combined with the blaze of the torches carried in front, rendered the procession a most imposing sight. His Royal Highness was presented with an address and with the freedom of the city in the Assembly Rooms. The Duke expressed himself greatly pleased with the welcome he had received, and said he would convey the good wishes of the community to her Majesty volunteers formed a guard of honour. During the night numerous rockets were sent up, and there were several displays of fireworks

The Duchess of Connaught and Strathearn and infant Princess continue to make most satisfactory progress.

The Duke of Cambridge, the Marquis of Bristol, the Earl of Onslow, Lord Aveland, Major-General Tyrwhitt, and Colonel Carington shot on Tuesday and Wednesday over the estate of Colonel Tomline, near Ipswich Birds were plentiful and strong, and some good bags were made.

The Countess of Erroll and Lady Cecilia

Hay have left Slains Castle, Aberdeenshire, for Lyme Park, Cheshire. Count and Countess Henry Larisch have arrived at Claridge's Hotel from Market Har-

Lord and Lady Haldon have arrived at St. George's-place, Hyde-park-corner.
Signor Stefano Scovasso, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of Italy, has arrived

The Count and Countess Francis Lutzow have left town on a visit to the Dowage Lady Howard de Walden at The Mote, Maid-

Sir Daniel Macnee, President of the Royal Scottish Academy, died on Tuesday night at his residence in Edinburgh, after an illness of little more than a week's duration. He was born in Stirlingshire in 1806, early adopted art as a profession, and came to oc-cupy the highest position as a portrait painter. He was elected President of the Royal Scottish Academy in 1876, in succession to Sir George Harvey, and was knighted a few

months afterwards.

The member for the Carnarvon Boroughs, Mr. Bulkeley Hughes, who has been lying seriously ill for some weeks past, was re-ported to be much better last right.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS. (FROM THE " DAILY NEWS.") Sir Henry Bulwer, Governor of Natal, will

it is understood, sail for that colony in about a fortnight's time. Mr. MacLeod, the Assistant Secretary of the

Education Department, having resigned, will be succeeded by Colonel Donnelly R.E., now Director of the Science Division, who while retaining his present post, will, as Assistant-Secretary of the Education Department, bethe Chief Officer of the Science and Art Department at South Kensington. In connection with the effort to diffuse in-

formation through the county constituencies on the reform of the Land Laws, Parliamentary Reform, Free Trade, and other questions which the annual meeting at Liverpool decided should be made, the National Liberal Federation has arranged an extensive series of lectures. During the next few weeks lectures will be delivered in North Lincolnshire, Mid-Cheshire, East and West Staffordshire, E st Worcestershire, West Gloucester shire, East Somerset, North Wilts, Berk-shire, Oxfordshire, and North Northamptonshire. No fee is charged for the lectures, the expenses being defrayed by the special fund which is being raised for this purpose and for the distribution of political litera-

ure. We hear that Cardinal Manning and Canon Farrar are taking steps to get up a requisi-tion to the Lord Mayor, asking him to call a public meeting on the subject of the outrages on the Jews in Russia and Poland. A public

meeting on the same question will be held at Manchester early in the ensuing month. It is expected that Baron H. de Worms, M.P., and Mr. Serjeant Simon, M.P., will attend as a deputation from the London Com-

THE DISCOVERY OF LEICHHARDT'S PAPERS.

It is clear that Leichhardt's journals have at last arrived in Sydney, and that authorities at once so unquestionable and so sceptical as Professer Neumayer of Hamburg and Baron von Muller of Melbourne are satisfied that they are authentic. Both of these gentlemen are distinguished Australian explorers and men of science, and both have for many years past been actively interested in the fate of their countryman. We may, therefore, take it for granted, that before according their weighty imprimatur to Mr. Skuthorpe, who has given such good cause for being distrusted, they have become convinced that incredibility is no longer justifiable. It is now thirty-four years since Ludwig Leichhardt set out on the Expedition from which he never returned. Since the 26th of February, 1848, no trace of him, or any member of his party, or, until now, of any portion of his equipment, has ever been seen. Again and again expeditions have been sent in search of him, and so often have the hunters been reported on his track that "the discovery of Leichhardt's remains "was looked for among the regular items of Australian news about everythree or four years. But the young German, when he left Canning Downs, thirtyfour years ago, strode into the darkness, as disappeared as completely as if he and his companions had sunk to the bottom of the ocean. His fate was the one great romance of the Southern Continent. The Australian novelist permitted his imagination to revel in speculations regarding the doom of Leichhardt; and the Australian poets found it difficult to tear themselves away from a theme so entrancing. It was natural that when a stockman named Skuthorpe announced that he had not only found the explorer's grave, and various relics of his Expedition, but his journals and the diary of one of his companions, who had lived among the natives up to the year 1877, that the world should receive the story with incredulity, especially as Mr. Sku-thorpe's conduct and antecedents were little calculated to inspire confidence. He refused to show the "relics," or to give any circum-stantial account of their nature, and seemed in no hurry to follow up the letter in which he announced that he had set out for Sydney with the precious documents. He tarried long on the road. At one village he found it necessary to chastise a scoffer, at another to prosecute an editor for libel. At intervals he would entirely disappear, only to return to the nearest Post-office for the purpose of opening up fresh negotiations with the Sydney authorities. Under these circumstances belief in Mr. Skuthorpe grew languid. Bets were freely offered—and not taken—to the effect that he was an impostor and the investigation that he was an impostor, and the journalist who had been condemned to pay him a shilling damages in vain offered to pay a large sum if his assailant could prove himself to be an honest man.

Mr. Skuthorpe, however, seems to have had a method in what more ingenuous people were inclined to consider his madness. Conscious that he was the sole possessor of a great secret, he was not inclined to sell himself at a cheap rate, and was only waiting to arouse public curiosity to such a pitch that he might ask, with some chance of obtaining, his own price. By Leichhardt's will, executed before he left Sydney, he bequeathed everything he died possessed of to his relatives in Germany. Clearly, therefore, the recovered relics were not Mr. Skuthorne's to dispose of Neumayer even asserts that the people at whose instigation and cost the ex-plorer was equipped and despatched have no legal claim to the only report of his Expedi-tion which is extant. Dr. Leichhardt's private effects are, of course, the property of his heirs. But the recovered instruments, chased with public money, and, above all, the journals of the travellers, ought, in common fairness, to revert to the representatives of those in whose services Dr. Leichhardt and his companions were at the time of their disappearance. Mr. Skuthorpe was, however, cautious, and it was not until, in addition to the five thousand pounds demanded, he was promised an indemnity against the result of any possible action brought by the exrelatives, that he consented to surrender his treasures. Beyond the fact that they are written in English — which shows that their author intended them for the use of the Australian authori-ties, and not for his German friends—we do not gather from Baron von Muller's letter to Dr. Behm what is the character of their contents The memoranda of Classen's life. if continued up to a late date, ought to be interesting; but it is more than possible that Dr. Leichhardt's journal will contain little of general value, if, as Skuthorpe asserts, he died soon after he was last heard of. The story of Leichhardt's Expedition is, indeed now a familiar one. Born in 1814, he landed in New South Wales in 1840, and soon distinguished himself as a naturalist and an explorer of the then almost unknown continent. After two Expeditions which proved him a man of metal, he set out on the journey which has gained him immortality among the victims of science. When he left Moreton Bay on the 27th of October, 1847, his party consisted of Messrs. Hentig, Classen (his brother-in-law), Stewart, and Kelly, and two "aboriginals." He proposed to follow up the lagoon until he came to the Victoria River, pursuing Sir Thomas Mitchell's outward track for a certain distance, when he would oranch off to the northern water, and then take the most practicable route to Swar River, the intended terminus of the Expedi-This was the proposal he communi cated in his last letter, and from that day to this we have had no means of knowing whether Ludwig Leichhardt altered or adhered to his plan.

It is, indeed, likely that we should for ever

have remained ignorant of Leichhardt's fate had it not been for the accident of a vagabond named Hume being confined in Paramatta Gaol about seven years ago. This man was known to have wandered much in the interior, and to have visited parts of the country undescribed by geographers. Among other regions in which he claimed to have strayed was the most westerly part of easterly Australia, and there he affirmed that he had met with Classen, the last survivor of Leichhardt's Expedition. During the nine weeks he resided with this man he learned many particulars regarding the fate of the lost exp According to Hume, the party mutinied while Classen was absent in search of water, and so seriously maltreated Leichhardt that he died soon afterwards. Classen then took up his residence among the "Black Fellows," who for twenty-eight years jealously prevented his escape, and on the only occasion on which he attempted to gain his freedom captured him, and boat him severely, as punishment for his misconduct. This account s now confirmed by Skuthorpe; but at the time it was received with general scepticism, and as Hume died before he could guide an expedition to the region of his roamings, his story of "Leichhardt's traces" was disbelieved. Mr. Skuthorpe, however, determined to test the tale, and, following up Hume's rack, was successful in reaching the tribe ndicated. Classen had died two years before his arrival, but the spot where he had concealed his own and Leichhardt's journals was shown to the new arrival, as well as maho-gany-coloured children, the fruit of Herr Classen's affection for a native spouse; and with these documents, and the other relics he had obtained, Skuthorpe set out for the settlements, and now, after devious wanderings,

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM "TRUTH.")

The selection of Gounod to compose the march which is to be played at Prince Leopold's marriage has caused great exasperation among our native professors; and surely, on such an occasion, an English composer might have been found capable of accomplishing a task which does not involve any very vast amount of talent.

The Chippenham ball, which for many years has taken a high place among country festivities, was held last week, and was fairly successful people 200 below. restivities, was held last week, and was fairly successful, nearly 200 being present. Lady Neeld brought a large party from Grittleton, but nobody came from Badminton, and the family were only represented by Lady Georgiana Codrington and her daughters. Next morning the Duke of Beaufort's hounds met at Hartham Park, and in the course of the day they got a very fast run of over an the day they got a very fast run of over an hour. The pack swam the Avon (for the third time in a fortnight, at almost the same place), and were followed by Lord Worcester and one or two more; but the swollen state of the river frightened the majority of the

Lady Grace Lowther had a bad fall when hunting with the Cottesmore the other day, but escaped with a severe shaking. It appears that the brothers Morewood are

cruising in the Mediterranean with their sister, on the yacht of a friend. If this friend does not marry their sister, they have announced to him that they have already decided by lot which of them is to treat him as they did their

own prother.

Lord Willeughby de Broke has imitated the example of the Duke of Beaufort, and has admonished his followers against that reckless admonished his followers against that reckless riding which results in serious damage to crops and fences. He recommends them carefully to peruse "Handley Cross."

The Croome hounds had a splendid run last week. They met at Powick and killed at

Hallow; the pace was very fast, considering the heavy going, with scarcely a check throughout. There were more falls than on any previous day this season, k, which came to fearful grief in Hallow-browns unusually full. Lord and Lady try and their boys were well in front in the contract the contract

Last week the young Duke of Newcastle obtained a brush in a strange way. Lord Galway's hounds ran a fox into Clumber Park, galway's hounds ran a fox into Clumber Park, and it took to the water, pursued by the pack, who caught it up and killed it about fifty yards from the bank. The Duke, who was fishing for pike from a boat, pulled to the spot, and having picked up the carcase, brought it to the shore, where Lord Galway brought it to the shore, where Lord Galway and as his Grace. had by this time arrived, and as his Grace was the only person in at the death, his claim to the brush was indisputable, and the Master at once presented it to him.

Dr. Close must think that the end of things is verily at hand when he learns that his successor has established choral communions in Carlisle Cathedral-a " Papistical innovation," which was at all times the subject of the late Dean's comminations. Dr. Oakley has been warmly welcomed by the excellent Bishop of the diocese, and he will doubtless awaken the Mother Church from its long

slumber. The recent gales have made rare havoc in the north. On Lord Breadalbane's Perthshire estates some 12,000 trees have been blown down in a circuit of a few miles, and on the Dunse Castle property, in Berwickshire, it is estimated that 50,000 have fallen. Last week, some of the oldest and finest timber to the value of nearly £100,000 Was

floating about in the Firth of Clyde.

Whilst amateurs are invading the stage, actresses are invading the realms of romanes and poetry. Mrs. Kendal has come forward as a poetess, and some pretty verses of her composition, entitled "Time passes on," have been set to music by Mr. Walter Mayn. Ad.

and published. The question of the scarcity of gentlement willing to accept volunteer commissions under the present conditions of service is forcing itself upon the military autocrats at Pall Mall. There is little doubt that the expense of providing outlit, subscriptions, etc., dant upon accepting a commission, tends in a great measure to prevent young men from joining the service. Either many of these superfluous drains upon the pocket must be discharged by the Government, or some substantial advantages should be accorded to the force to make it worth the while of anyone to accept a commission. Could not the volun-teer service be made a means of passing into the regular army on the same principle as

that existing in the militia? "It being Christmas time, and mistletoe being about." Miss Amelia Graham, barmaid, has not pressed for the punishment of Henry Austen, "the elder," for kissing her, but has declared herself satisfied with an apology. If elders will kiss Susannahs, instead of eyeing them from a distance, they would do well to choose Christmas for these osculatory performances. Susannahs who object to them should not allow mistletoe to

bars in which they serve and shine.

I have just opened a coronetted envelope, and from its enclosed letter have learnt that the secretary to a Dairy Company has been directed by a Right Honourable Earl to inform me that the Company has increased the number of its cows; also that the Right Honourable Earl and his prolific coadjutors can produce milk and cream, and, in addition, eggs or poultry, which they deliver direct. It would not be surprising should trade societies object to a coronet being used as a trademark, or were the owners of coronets collectively to do so; but, failing any objection on the part of either of these, the Inland Revenue may feel interested in the matter.

The new omnibuses that have been built from plans of Captain Molesworth, and which appeared recently in the streets, are a vast provement over the old-fashioned 'bus, and this week the Captain has exhibited some cabs in the City, which are very ingeniously constructed, somewhat on the model of his omnibuses. Anyone who would put an end to the growler would be a public benefactor. I therefore trust that the new cabs will soon e plying at railway stations and in the

Tourists will be sorry to hear that the ss Gitana, which Major-General Macdonald placed, at great expense, on the waters of Loch Rannoch last year—where it was the first craft of its kind—foundered last week in a storm. It is to be hoped that the unlucky vessel may be raised and floated again, and that a small winter dock may be constructed

for its future safe keeping.

I am glad to see by the Admiralty Regulations just issued respecting the Naval Cadets, that four Cadetships are to be given annually to sons of gentlemen in the colonies, and that a certain number, not exceeding five in one year, will also be reserved for sons of officers of the Army and Navy who have been killed or injured in action, or who have been lost at

sea or died whilst on active service.

The turret ships after the Inflexible type, which are being completed at Chatham, are not to be fitted with the electric light at present, as the Admiralty are considering the whole question of the lighting of ironclads. It would save a deal of expense if "My lords" came to a speedy decision, as, if the light is to be adopted generally, it will be a pity to lay up the new vessels in a few months, in order that they may be fitted with it, when it could be done so much better before they are com-

IN THE GREEN-ROOM OF THE PARIS OPERA HOUSE.

What could have tempted Mile. Krauss to solicit the part of Marguerite in Gounod's Faust? It is not the function of a churchergan to imitate the notes of a light song-

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 19-20, 1882.

GENERAL SKOBELEFF'S SPEECH. General Skobeleff, as we are informed by our Paris correspondent, denies that he uttered the extraordinary language attributed to him by some of the Paris journals. If, indeed, this were the first example of General Skobeleff's bellicose orations, it would be almost incredible that he should have spoken of an ally of his country in terms only applicable to a declared enemy. We ourselves, however, as well as the Austrians, have had some experience of the delicate tact shown by this distinguished officer in his language concerning foreign countries. Thus, though it is possible that the fierce invective against Germans with which General Skobeleff has been credited is in a great measure exaggerated, Englishmen will not be disinclined to believe that the speech in question was pugnacious, and calculated to create bad blood between Russia and Austria, as well as between Austria and the Slavs on her border. It is high time that these inflammatory and disquieting harangues from men in the high position of General Sko-beleff should be summarily stopped. If the Russian Government professes to hold any check at all upon its officers, now is the time to exercise such a restraint. At a moment when Austria is engaged in the suppression of an insurrection in the Herzegovina we might expect Russia and Russian agents to be extraordinarily cautious in not lending colour to reports of Russian intrigues on the frontier. Information emanating from Vienna is to the effect that, in the opinion of the Austrian Government, derived no doubt from official Russian assurances, these reports are without foundation; and Count has already declared his confidence in Russian protestations of amity. On the other hand, the accounts which our Vienna correspondent gives of the alarming rumours that prevail throughout South Eastern Europe, culminating in the reported resignation of M. de Giers and the appointment of General Ignatieff to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, show an apprehension of danger which of itself is an intolerable evil. It now becomes a primary international duty that Russia should cease to permit the embarrassment of an ally by the declamations or the acts of the Russian military caste. Gen. Skobeleff's tone is only a sample of the tone generally adopted by less prominent and less responsible men in and out of Russia. The Russian Government, by the laxness of its discipline, becomes morally responsible for a state of things distinctly endangering the peace of Europe. The Court of St. Petersburg is in duty bound to show to Austria by conduct as well as by bare professions that it loyally abides by the Berlin settlement. Austria is now following out the legitimate consequences of that settlement, signed by every party interested, by Turkey and by Russia herself. Austrians are entitled, in their difficult and delicate position, to the loyal support of all the signaturies of the treaty. If, in carrying out the occupation sanctioned by the Powers, Austria has dealt somewhat strictly with a race accustomed to the lax Ottoman rule, that is no valid pretext for outside interference. Those who treat, like General Skobeleff, the financial and commercial progress of Austria in the Slav countries, as an armed invasion would seem deterto find something to quarrel The least Europe can expect is about. that all this rhetoric of persons in high places, all this declamation adverse to the peace of Europe, should be at once repudiated and repressed. However soon the Russian Government may disclaim responsibility for the sentiment, the position of the speaker cannot fail to breed alarm and suspicions in the financial, if not in the political, world. So far as the authority of the Czar in his partial seclusion extends, Europe has the right to ask that it shall be used to prevent the recurrence of firebrand speeches from Russian Gene-

Russian Generals.-Times. The Standard says :- General Skobeleff affects to be indignant at the report of his recent speech to the Servian students in Paris, to which, as he does not profess to be a politician, he considers too great importance has been attached. He complains that he has been much misrepresented in the matter, though he admits that the spirit of his remarks has been faithfully reproduced. Startling as was the Speech, and yet more surprising, if possible, as was the reply of the Russian Consul General in Bulgaria, M. Chitrovo. to an Address presented to him a few days since by a Deputation from the Central Slav Committee of Moscow, the significance of these two curious incidents would be lost were not a distinction to be made between official, diplomatic, and governmental Russia on the one hand, and the formless, nameless, unaccredited Russia on the other, which feels, thinks, acts, and speaks in a semi-blind, semi-conscious, semi-articulate manner, quite independently of the Czar, of his Ministers, his Diplomatists, and his army. General Skobeleff has won world-wide fame as a soldier, and his services were rendered under the the authorised flag of the Russian nation. He has distinguished himself alike in Europe and in Asia, and his name and the name of the fields he won are sufficiently identified with the recognised glories of his country to give bap-

rals, and most of all from the first of

tismal titles to the Russian navy. But for all that, General Skobeleff has always been something more than a soldier of the Crown. He has taken care to maintain a vigorous and distinct personality of his own; and though he has served the Imperial Government of St. Petersburg with singular valour and fidelity, he has uniformly dissociated himself from its more prudent policy, and has not hesitated openly to repudiate all sympathy with its subordination of Slavonic yearnings to the preservation of a good understanding with the European Powers. In the language, therefore, which he has just employed there is nothing substantially new. He has only said what everybody knew he thought. It is the choice of time and place that has caused his words to resound through Europe. He has sent down the Funds at Vienna; he has raised a tremendous newspaper clamour at Berlin, and called forth an expression of the deepest sorrow and indignation from the German Emperor. That he should have done so is not wonderful. He has " caught up the whole of truth and uttered it," as far as the relation of Russia to Germany and Austria is concerned. "We are not at home in our own house," he says, or has been made to say. "The foreigner is everywhere, and his hand in everything. We are the dupes of his policy, the victim of his intrigues. If you wish to know the name of this foreigner, this intruder and intriguer, I will name him. It is the German." Language so downright and plain-spoken as this may possibly be unwise and ill-timed; but if anybody thinks it is extravagant, in the sense that it is untrue, he can have studied the existing political problem on the Continent to very little purpose. It is not to the various officials of German origin and German nomenclature, who are so widely and so actively employed in Russia, that General Skobeleff refers. If he had said, "I will name the intruder and intriguer: it is Prince Bismarck," he would have expressed his inmost thought more completely than he ventured to do. The restraint under which Gen. Skobeleff and all Russians who share his opinions are chafing is the restraint exercised by German diplomacy over Russian policy. The Czar went to Dantzic, and was cordially received; but the price of the reception was the assumption and maintenance of a passive attitude between Austria and the Slavonic malcontents she is striving to reduce to submission. Against this attitude of neutrality the patriotic soul of General Skobeleff revolts. He knows perfectly well who it is that induces the Czar and his Ministers to look on with folded arms while the insurgents in Herzegovina are shot down or disarmed, while the Ruthenians of Galicia are vigilantly supervised, and while slowly but surely Austria-Hungary is pushing its influence eastward. It the German, says General Skobeleff; and he is quite right. But if this state of things is to end, what is the alternative? General Skobeleff sees it, and does not shrink from it. "A struggle between the be long, sanguinary, and terrible; but the Slav will triumph." That is to prophesy—a proverbially dangerous function. Yet no cautious observer will laugh at the prediction. The forces that would be brought into play by such a struggle would be many and complex. Were Russia avowedly to put itself at the head of a great Panslavonic movement, there is not a rood of ground between the Rhine and the Black Sea that would not feel the convulsion. Austria would have to fight for dear life, and thousands of those who are now denominated her subjects might be found arrayed against her. The powerful sword of Germany would nominally be at her disposal; but would not its edge be required to ward off assault upon the West? When General Skobeleff in Paris denounces "the German" he wakes a sunpressed echo in other than Servian hearts. When he adds "we are dominated and paralysed to such an extent by his innumerable and disastrous influences, that, if we are to deliver ourselves from them, as hope we shall some day or other, it can be done by us sword in hand," he must know, and if he does not know others do, that he is uttering the thought dearer even to French than to Slavonic hearts. We publish a telegram, says the Daily

News, from our Paris correspondent describing an interesting conversation which he has had with General Skobeleff. Though the General complains that the French journals have exaggerated and distorted the remarks which he made to the Servian deputation, his tone was sufficiently bellicose at the interview to which we have referred. If Austria continues, he said, to oppress the Sclav population of Bosnia and the Herzegovina, there will be a great war. It is General Skobeleff's opinion that Europe will unite to combat the "military clericalism" of Austria, but it is at all events in his view the duty of Russia to rescue men of her own race from servitude to an alien Power. These threats are directly aimed at Austria-Hungary, but the General expressed annoyance at what he considered German indifference to Austrian aggression. The feeling at Berlin, which our correspondent in that city declares to be growing continually more bitter, is certainly not one of indifference to Russian menaces. The relation between the two countries has been no doubt changed for the worse by General Skobeleff's repeated outbursts of a sentiment to which militant patriotism is the very mildest phrase that can be applied. General Skobeleff, however, is not an agent of the Russian Government. He is a brilliantly successful commander, bent on making for himself a great career and he may be willing to incur temporary disapproval, or even disgrace, in pursuit of future influence, for which he is young enough to wait. The pacific temper of the Czar, who is believed to be particularly desirous at the present time of a friendly understanding with Germany, is of more importance than what may be the calculation of a fiery soldier. It is rather to be hoped than expected that the internal troubles and disorder of Russia may increase her aversion from war. The correspondence respecting the treatment of the Jews in that country which has just been laid before Parliament, while it does not confirm the worst of the alleged outrages, tells a melancholy story of popular fury and administrative apathy.

AN INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL SKOBELEFF. The Paris correspondent of the Daily News, telegraphing on Sunday night

Ascertaining that General Skobeleff had not

says :-

really quitted Paris, I called this afternoon and had nearly half an hour's conversation with him. I said to him, "General, you have been interviewed by an editor of the Voltaire. An account has been given in La Voltaire. An account has been given in La France of your answer to the Servian students. Are they both true?" "I received," said the General," "a journalist from the Voltaire and a Servian deputation, but what I said in both cases has been frightfully exaggerated." I said, jocosely, "I am glad to hear you say so; for, to be frank, if you talked in the manner it is alleged you did, it would be the duty of M. de Freycinet to send you to join M. Lavroff." "No," answered General Skobeleff, "you surely cannot mean that." "Personally I am against all expulsions, but as the object of the French Government is to keep out of hot water and in peace with the world, I think it would be only logical, had you spoken as you are represented, to request you to

spoken as you are represented, to request you to leave France." "Is that your impression?" he asked. "Certainly," I returned. "I repeat," he said, "that the French journalists have terribly and ridiculously exaggerated what I said. I am not come at all to arouse a storm, but to avert one, which ear only be done by but to avert one, which can only be done by frank speaking. If I say that a disagreeable fact exists, I am not responsible for its exist-ence." "What is the fact?" I inquired. ence." "What is the race: a raquing what," that a great war is inevitable if the What," that a great war is inevitable if the Austrians go on oppressing the Sclavs in Bosnia and the Herzegovina. I hate war. On my honour and conscience, I detest it. Before God I tell you that I do. I have had 21,000 men killed under me in one campaign and have realised all that is sickening, cruel odious, atrocious in the military profession My object, therefore, is to obtain by the truth the results which our people think may be accomplished by war, and which they will go to war to accomplish. If diplomatists will shut their eyes to facts, there is nothing to be gained by what is called diplomatic discretion. The two greatest masters in diplomacy were

Cromwell and Bismarck, and they always talked with the frankness of business-mer

who knew what they wanted, and saw how

to get it."
"Well, what is it Russia wants to get?"
I interrupted. "Nothing for herself," said General Scobeless. "We are a people of idealists. We are capable of great enthusiasm, and love self-sacrifice. What do we see? Our brothers tyrannised over by Austria, who has made her first approach in Bosnia to domination over all the Sclavs in the Balkan Peninsula. She was given in trust, and trust only, as the English were given Corfu, the two Sclav provinces that she is now oppressing. She has no right to conscribe for her army the young men there, nor to interfere with the religion of the people. A clerical propaganda has been established by her. The Jesuits that were cleared out of France, Austria received with open arms. The Jesuit fathers are dressed up with her connivance as Greek Popes, and about trying to entice the peasants from eir faith." "The Jesuits are consistent," I observed, "in trying to convert, but is it probable that any European Government would be so foolish as to institute a propa-ganda such as you describe." General Skobeless declared that nothing was more certain than that all Russia would unite to combat the military clericalism of the Austrians in the States under her protection. Their formula would be "Hands off." If Europe insisted on the observation in letter and spirit of the Troaty of Borlin Russia would be satisfied. She agreed to that treaty, which was not a good one for her or for the Sclavs beyond the Danube; but it secured to the latter freedom from oppression. To be freed from Mahomet and then to be oppressed by the Holy Roman Empire would be intolerable. The Sclavs would neither be Turk nor Jesuit ridden. Their determination should be made known to the world, so that diplomatists, who were always for ignoring the truth, should be compelled to face it and so

avert war. I here said, "I now understand why the Czar allows the war ship to be called after Czar allows the war ship to be called after you." Skobeleff's face appeared to hesitate about his answer. He had read in German telegrams about the christening of the ship. After reflecting an instant he alluded to a reported mission with which he was charged. It was a purely imaginary one. He had no mission from anybody, but had come on his to arouse Western feeling against clerical Austria, and to prevent mis-understanding. I asked in what the misun-derstanding lay. There was a notion that Sclav emancipation would lead to Russian The more free the Adriation Sclavs were, the greater would be their

difference from the Russian type.

In speaking of Germany no rabid antipathy or hostility was disclosed, but there was disappointment evinced at the indifference with which the German Government witness the infractions by Austria of the Berlin Treaty. An idea had taken root at Berlin that Russia had come dislocated out of the war. She had been weakened; her finances were disordered; she was undergoing a political crisis; but she had a population of 80,000,000, and the discontent aroused by the demi-results of the Balkan campaign would be cured by another attempt to champion the oppressed Sciavs. Germany could not attack Russia without exposing hersif to France. I said that the temper of France was now essentially pacific, and that no statesman who avowed a war programme would have the country behind him. France, would have the country behind him. France, after Russia and Germany had exhauted themselves, might step in to recover Alsace and Lorraine, but it would be madness for

any State thinking of a great campaign to build on an alliance with her. I asked General Skobeleff whether I might publish an account of the interview. He said, "With pleasure; but first repeat to me the conversation that has taken place, in order that I may be sure you understand me." I did so, and he was satisfied with my re-capitulation. He specie English fluently. It is easy to see that he is a man of tremendous "go," impressionable enthusiastic, frank to transparency. He has intuition and a powerful intellect, and the temperament of a Crusader. He is the Godfrey de Bouillon of

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WINDSOR CASTLE, SUNDAY. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by the Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe and the Equerries in Waiting, arrived at the Castle at 5.30 p.m. yesterday from Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service this morning in the private chapel. The Rev. Thomas Rowsell, Deputy Clerk of the Closet to the Queen and Canon of Westminster, preached the sermon. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught drove out this morning, accompanied by the Duke.

Princess Mary Adelaide (Duchess of Teck) visited the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House on Saturday, and re-

The Duke of Westminster left Grosvenor
House on Saturday for Eaton Hall, Chester.
The Duke of Marlborough has arrived at
Thomas's Hotel from Blenheim Palace.
The Dowager Duchess of Cleveland completed her 90th year on Friday last and is in the enjoyment of excellent health, a few per-sonal friends dining with her the same even-

The Marquis Townshend started on Saturday, by the advice of his doctors, for a Con-tinental tour in the hope of re-establishing his health. The Marchioness remains in London with her children

The Earl and Countess of Dalkeith have arrived in town from Scotland.

The following bulletin was received at Lord Wilton's house in Grosvenor-square on Sunday evening:—"The Earl of Wilton has had a restless night. There is no improvement in his lordship's condition this morning." Viscount Grey de Wilton left town on Sun-

day afternoon for Melton Mowbray.

At St. George's Church, Hanover-square, on
Saturday, the infant daughter of Mr. W. H.
Gladstone, M.P., and Hon. Mrs. Gladstone was baptised. A small family circle, com-prising the Prime Minister and Mrs. Gladtone, Lord Blantyre and Hon. Mary Stuart, stone, Lord Blantyre and Hon. Mary Stuart,
Lady Lyttelton, Lady Frederick Cavendish,
Hon. C. L. Lyttelton, Mr. and Hon. Mrs.
W. H. Gladstone, attended the christening.
The sponsors were Lord Blantyre, Hon.
Lady Baird, and Lady Frederick Cavendish.
The Rev. Stephen Gladstone, rector of
Hawarden, performed the baptismal rite, the
infant taking the names of Evelyn Catharine.
The Prime Minister and Mrs. Gladstone
entertained Count Munster, Prince Lobanoff,
the Marguis and Marchioness of Bath. Earl the Marquis and Marchioness of Bath, Earl and Countess Sydney, the Earl of Cork, the Earl of Kenmare, Lord Carlingford, the Hon. C. L. Lyttelton, the Hon. Mary Stuart, Sir T. Brassey, M.P., Mr. W. H. Gladstone, M.P., and Mr. W. B. Richmond at dinner at the light that the state of the state

right hon. gentleman's official residence in Downing-street on Saturday evening. The death is announced of the Hon. George Edgeumbe, uncle to the Earl of Mount-Edgeumbe, which took place on Saturday night at his residence, Stone Hall, Stonehouse. The deceased gentleman, who was born in 1800, was attacked with paralysis about a week since, and never rallied. He was formerly in the diplomatic service.

THE FEARNEAUX FRAUDS.

EXTRAORDINARY CONFESSION BY THE PRISONER. Revelations of a more startling character with regard to the woman Fearneaux were made on Sunday, confirming the belief pre-viously entertained by the police that Fearneaux was not the only person who profited by the extensive frauds. On the other hand, they tend to show that some of the self-styled victims were either confederates in a great conspiracy, or, knowing of the frauds, deliberately levied black mail upon the woman. The letters in the hands of the authorities prove conclusively that several persons, instead of being "ruined body and soul," have been continually receiving money from Fearneaux. There are 300 letters from one person, nearly every one acknowledging the receipt of various sums from 7s. or 8s. to 30s. Another person who has bitterly complained of being a "victim" is now shown

to have been a great gainer rather than a loser in consequence of his acquaintance with Fearneaux. It is also clear that several in-dividuals only pretended to believe that the woman was "Lord Clinton," and this with the view of getting money. Fearneaux's servant states most positively that many of the Birmingham "victims" were fully aware the discoveries already made seem to show that it was only with regard to their own pecuniary profit that several persons kept up, or tried to keep up, the deception.

On Sunday afternoon Detective Cooper broke the seals, and opened some letters

found upon the prisoner addressed to Lord Coleridge, which it was at first intended to deliver to his lordship personally. Four of them had been intercepted by Fearneaux. The most important was a full and extraordinary confession, dated April 23, 1881, and the envelope containing it is addressed, "To Lord Coleridge and for no person else from Lord Coleridge, and for no person else, from de Fearneaux." It runs as follows

"I declare that not one person has had any mother is innocent of any such thing. I admit I am myself the sole perpetrator, but not with any dishonest idea, for I was trying to get into some honest appointment, and would have paid all justly up with 5 per cent. interest. All who hear of this must not believe I have had all the money. I acknow-ledge I have not had more than the twohundredth part. It is all interest, and the moneys that James Gething got to bring me e never gave me full, but would tell me to acknowledge so much more than he gave me to Mr. Beynon, and he either lent the money or kept it. He did not act honestly in his dealings with me and Mr. Beynon. I sincerely beg the pardon of those whose names I have used, and declare I did not do it with dishonest motive, and it is spite which has led Gething to do what he has. The demands upon me for these and the others of the Bir mingham people were more than I could stand. I was fetched away from Prestwich Asylum, where I was content, and earning sufficie for self and mother's requirements. I was narassed with friends while I was there, and fetched from it at last as from a situation. A Buckingham I was offered these loans Gething. I never asked for such a thing. never did. I swear these statements to be the truth. I regret this trouble for my mother's sake, and my dear friend also, who has been the only one who ever told me I did wrong in anything. Oh! had I only the courage to have told her of what I was doing, all this misery would have been saved me have been told my friends never told my mother. Mother thought it was money coming through Miss Boles, her aunt, and had got leave to get sufficient. never knew: she does not know all this now. I write this fully believing I shall not live to I write this fully believing I shall not live to see another week. I am ill, too ill. May God have mercy upon my poor mother, and raise up friends for her, and heal her broken heart, and may God heal the heart of my poor friend, for I cannot ever repay her what I owe her, and I can only hope we shall meet in that better land. God sees, and He knows all secrets and all hearts. He knows I am a had loose will nearts. He knows I am a bad, loose, vile character. My fault has been doing this, and being a tool in the hands of such men as James Gething. As long as he could get cash from me, and of what I got, he did not do this act. I am sorry for Mr. Beynon. I did never mean to wrong him.—(Signed) Fred. DE FEARNEAUX."

At the same time was discovered a letter which affords amusing proof of the complete deception of the Liverpool money-lender. I is one addressed to Lord Coleridge by Mr. S Auerbach, of 33, Stafford-street, Liverpool under date January 16 last, and read:—" am in receipt of your lordship's letter of the am in receipt of your fordship's letter of the 14th inst. In reply I beg respectfully to re-mind your lordship that in my former letter I expressed my willingness to continue to make advances to your lordship's client with your lordship's consent. I was not aware that Miss Fearneaux was again short of cash, she not having made further applications to me. However, I went to her house to-day and made her an advance of £100 net, re questing the honour of an early interview with your lordship. This will certainly be a great satisfaction to me. I need take up very little of your lordship's valuable time.—I have the ur to remain, yours [obediently, AUERBACH.'

VANITY FAIRINGS.

The present Lord Londsdale is in a very extraordinary and entirely unprecedented position with regard to the estates to which he is supposed to have succeeded. As a matter of fact he has not succeeded to the estates at all, but only to the title; for during the late Earl's lifetime the present Lord, the Hugh Lowther, sold his reversion to the property to his elder brother. The sale, which was effected upon a due and exact valuation of the relative probabilities, was made for very small sum, and the effect of it was that the life-interest in the estates, which the preent Earl would otherwise have had, becar the property of the late Earl, and was disposed of absolutely by the late Earl's will. Now the late Earl has left this interest to certain trustees—of whom Mr. James Low-ther is one—with an almost unlimited power as to its disposal; and the result is that, with the exception of his younger son's portion and the sum received for his reversion, the present Earl will practically be a pensioner on Mr. James Lowther and the other trus-

As it is currently reported that Lord Charles Hamilton, the only brother of the Duke of Hamilton and the heir-presumptive to the title, is about to marry the daughter of Prince Pignatelli, I think that some official contradiction ought to be forthcoming; for Lord Charles Hamilton married some time ago Madame Paskiewitch, whose first husband was a nephew of that Russian General who treated the Poles with so much gentle consideration. I have not heard that this marriage, which was contracted at Venice, has been declared void by the Pope, as was has been declared void by the Pope, as was that of Lord Charles's sister with the Hereditary Prince of Monaco, or by the Czar in his capacity of Head of the Russian Church; and it was only the other day that Lord and Lady Charles Hamilton were living happily

Mrs. Charles Wyndham, the widow of that late Colonel Wyndham who, after quitting the Scots Greys, held for many years an appointment in the Tower of London, has died at Hampton Court Palace. Thus a set of anartments becomes yearst pulses indeed apartments becomes vacant, unless, indeed, her Majesty should allow Miss Wyndham to retain those hitherto held by Mrs. Wyndham. There are precedents for such an arrange-

There is not much gaiety in prospect at present, but at this time of year impromptu dances are often arranged at the last moment,

and are not the least pleasant of the gay amusements of the day.

So many people are abroad, and so many still in their country places, that Society at present can only be limited. Now that the present can only be limited. Now that the rush to the meeting of Parliament is over, it becomes very apparent that more than half the Members have not brought up their families, and do not propose doing so just yet. Easter falls rather early this year, and as the Queen has announced her project of passing the month previous abroad, it is understood that there will be no Court festivities or real that there will be no Court festivities or real

season till Eastertide is past and over.

The stopping of the Cottesmore Hounds, though a great disappointment to the men, has been of immense service to hounds and to horses, which have had a very hard long time of it since the beginning of an almost unbroken season.

The Empress of Austria has been fortunate in her weather this year, though not lucky in sport. She has had one or two really blank sport. She has had one or two really blank days, and corn is so unusually forward that farmers already begin to groan "'Ware wheat." Hunting men feel that the chase is not quite so noble and free a sport as of yore, when the farmer in his top-boots was the foremost in the chase, when his jolly red face beamed on the scene, and his loudest tones should not the ridges as they deshed through cheered on the riders as they dashed through his best fences and tore over his most promising young wheat.

Illness prevails a good deal just now. Bronchitis and congestion of the lungs have already had many victims, whilst on all sides measles or scarlatina seem to abound. The faculty say that frost is needed to clear the Vanity Fair.

MUSIC. The popularity of Gounod's Faust was again attested on Saturday night, when her Majesty's Theatre was insufficiently large to accommodate all the applicants for admission to hear the first performance of the work this season by the Carl Rosa Opera Company The greatest pains had evidently been taken to secure a good performance of Gounod's masterpiece, and the opera went well from beginning to end, under the able direction of Signor Randegger. In the rôle of Marguerite, Mme. Fernandez-Bentham, after a l successful operatic career on the Continent. and met with a favourable reception. Her voice appears to have gained increase of power since she was last heard in London, and she acts better than formerly. That her intonation was sometimes defective may pro-bably have arisen from the nervousness under which she was obviously labouring, and her next appearance will be awaited with pleasure. Miss Yorke, as Siebel, deservedly the favour of the entire audience; and Miss Giulia Warwick was an exceptionally good Martha, her excellent voice giving special charm to the quartett in the garden scene. Mr. Barton M Guckin, in the rôle of Faust, achieved a decided success. His command of high notes enabled him to attack with ease the upper notes in "Salve Dimora," the "Garden Scene" duet, and the trio with Valentine and Mephistophiles. Mr. M Guckin not only sang, but acted well, and Faust is certainly the best rôle in which he has appeared before the London public. Mr. Ludwig (Valentine) sang with his usual power of expression. Mr. Snazelle was a satisfactory Mephistophiles, and Mr. Leahy an efficient Wagner. The Soldiers' Chorus was heartily encored, and vigorous attempts were made to obtain repetitions of other portions of the opera. These attempts were defeated by the firmness of will exhibited by Signor Randegger, who thereby earned the thanks of enlightened amateurs. The mise en scène was admirable, and the opera has rarely been better placed on the stage.

An English adaptation, by Mr. J. P. Jackson, of Herr Richard Wagner's Tannhauser was successfully produced on Tuesday night,

with a splendid mise en scène and a strong cast, including Mme. Valleria—who realised a brilliant success in the rôle of Elizabeth-Mr. Ludwig (Wolfram), Mr. Pope (the Land-grave), and Herr Anton Schott (Tannhauser). The minor parts were well filled, and Miss Burns as Venus sang and acted charmingly. The opera-barring a few unimportant slips -went well, under the direction of Signor Randegger, and was so enthusiastically welthe large audience that it is to be regretted so few repetitions of it can be given this season, which will terminate March 4th. Sir Julius Benedict's delightful and ever

welcome Irish opera, The Lily of Killarney, was produced on Thursday last with great success, under the masterly direction of Mr. John Pew. Miss Gaylord repeated her former vocal and histrionic triumph in the rôle of Edy O'Connor, Miss Yorke (Mrs. Cregan), and Miss Giulia Warwick (Ann Cregan), and Miss Giulia Warwick (Ann Chute) acquitted themselves admirably, and Mr. Packard (Hardress), Mr. Crotty (Danny Mann), and especially Mr. Chas. Lyall (Myles) merited the hearty applause that was showered upon them. The popular melodies which adorn the opera seemed as fresh as a contract and were received with genuine and ever, and were received with genuine and

hearty applause .- Observer. The fifteenth public concert of the Bach Choir Society (and the first of the current season) was given on Thursday last at St. James's Hall, under the direction of Mr. Otto Goldschmidt. The programme included speci-mens of ecclesiastical music by Bach, Byrd, Sir F. G. Ouseley, and Palestrina, and the Missa Papa Marcelli of the last named composer (never before heard in any concert room in this country) was a special attraction. This noble work has for more than three hundred years been a model of ecclesiastical style, and is performed annually, on Holy Saturday, in the private chapel of the Pope. It was written after the Council of Trent, in the year 1562, had decreed that an immediate reform in church music was indispensable, and that secular tunes and songs should no longer be permitted in the services of the church. A proposal was made to restrict church music to the Gregorian plain chant; but this sweeping change was averted by Palestrina, wh composed three masses in strict ecclesiastical style. All three were accepted as models of style by a council of cardinals, and the third, the Missa Papa Marcelli, was performed before the Pope in the Sistine Chapel, June 28, 1565, since which date it has held its place as a

standard by which to judge the ecclesiastic sandard by which to judge the ecclesiastic I writings of other composers. On Thursday last it was carefully and well executed, under the skilful direction of Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, and was listened to with genuine pleasure by musicians who had previously only known it from perusal of the score, as well as by the cultivated amateurs by whom the Bach Cheir Society is supported. Its early repetition would be welcomed.

THE DRAMA. TOOLE'S THEATRE.

Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Byron's new comedy was not ready for the first night of Toole's Theatre, and that the programme was made up of familiar materials, the rechristened and re-constructed place of entertainment opened on Thursday last with every possible indication of success, and with the fullest promise of a prosperous future. This was, indeed, small matter for surprise. Mr. Toole is one of a few fortunate actors whom Toole is one of a few fortunate actors whom the public is prepared to go and see without any reference to the characters and pieces in which they appear. People go to "see Toole"—to renew their acquaintance with a mirth-provoking individuality, to laugh over jokes whether new or old, to enjoy a genial numour which for them cannot grow stale. It is this special characteristic of the comedian's popularity which lends some sort of fitness to the arrangement—a novel one in this country—by which his theatre is in future to be called by his own name. The only awkward thing is that at Toole's Theatre playgoers will always expect to find Toole, and must sometimes be disappointed unless his numerous provincial admirers are to lose numerous provincial admirers are to lose sight of him altogether. This, however, is a question of managerial policy into which we certainly need not enter. The many improvements which have during the past six months been effected at the Folly have already been described in these columns. It will be sufficient to note that the house is now turned ficient to note that the house is now turned into a really commodious and handsome little theatre, amply provided with exits, if not actually, as the manager suggested in his amusing speech, with a separate door for each member of the audience. Of the performance it is sufficient to say that the oldeach member of the audience. Of the performance it is sufficient to say that the old-fashioned fun of Paul Pry proved as acceptable as ever. Mr. Toole's version of the fussy busy-body is thoroughly his own, founded though it is directly upon the traditions left by his famous predecessors in the part. It accentuates the genuine good-humour of the mischief-maker, and thereby part. It accentuates the genuine good-humour of the mischief-maker, and thereby brightens the dull effect of many of his sayings and doings. The arrangement by which the comedy is now played in three acts gives comparatively little prominence to the minor characters; but for the due presentation of most of these Mr. Toole's company is capitally suited. Thus for the irascible Colonel Hardy, and the scheming Mrs. Scuttle, Mr. John Billington and Miss Emily Thorne are happily at hand, whilst Mr. E. D. Ward, Mr. Garrien, Mr. Shelton, Miss Effice Liston, and Miss at hand, whist Mr. E. D. Ward, Mr. Garden, Mr. Shelton, Miss Effic Liston, and Miss Eliza Johnstone, all do good work. That old-established favourite Domestic Economy concludes the programme. It should be added that Mr. Toole intends during the season to bring out new pieces by Mr. Byron, Mr. Burnand, and Mr. Reece.—Observer.

It is to be feared, says the Observer, that the unfavourable verdict pronounced upon The Manager on its production at the Court Theatre is not likely to be revoked. There is much clever work in the piece; there are two undeniably amusing scenes, and there are But, as a whole, the piece has not sufficient back bone of dramatic interest, even for a farcical comedy of the bustling and extravagant order. Moreover, it seems to us to be produced at the wrong theatre; it is not what one naturally looks for at the Court under its present management. It need scarcely be said that Mr. Burnand leaves in The Manager nothing of what which is objectionable in Le Mari de la Débutante. But his determination to accomplish this shuts him out from the expedients employed by MM. Meilhac and Halevy to supplement the deficiencies to their plot. He is driven, therefore, to the wearisome elaboration of purely farcial "business," and to dangerous experiments with the patience of his audience. The performance of the play by the Court company yields several surprises, prominent amongst which is Mr. Clayton's appearance in a completely new light as the vulgar Government official who in the intervals of his duty as registrar of marriages conducts the Palladium Theatre. Mr. Clayton, admirably disguised, throws real humour into this impersonation. Another unexpected hit is made by Miss Measor in the rather thankless rôle of a deaf charwoman, to assume which rôle of a deaf charwoman, to assume which she is content to wholly sink her identity.

Mr. G. W. Anson, as the Cockney bridegroom

arrigusly annoyed by his who is so seriously annoyed by his wife's proceedings after her visit to the registrar's office, is only asked to do what she has often done before. But this he does in the spirit of broad fun which alone can make such wild exaggerations ac-ceptable. Mr. H. Kemble, as the fatuous Mr. Justice Bunby; Mr. D. G. Bouckault, as an influential theatrical busybody; Miss Linda influential theatrical busybody; Miss Linda Dietz, as a troublesome prima donna; and Miss Lottie Venne, as her amateur substitute, all struggle hard to give animation and variety to the representation. In this they, together with many other members of the extensive cast, are fairly successful. But they fail, through no fault of their own, to weld a series of exceedingly comic details into a really entertaining whole. It is a plty, for the company is a strong one, and the author has evidently taken great pains with his work. The simple fact of the matter is that MM. Mailhac and Haldwy's original work to not Meilhac and Halevy's original work is not suited to the purpose for which it is here employed, and that the labour spent upon it was almost sure to be wasted. The little play by Mr. D. G. Boucicault, which commences the evening here, is in a very different vein. The subject of My Little Girl, which is borrowed from Messrs. Besant and Rice's story, is self-sacrifice—the sacrifice which a middle-aged guardian so often has to make when his beloved ward grows up. In this instance the man's grief at yielding up to younger hands the girl whom he had hoped to make his wife is very tenderly treated, and Mr. Boucicault's debut as a playwright is decidedly promising. He and Miss Measor represent the youthful lovers, but the burden of the sentimental labour falls upon the capable shoulders of Mr. Clayton, whilst Miss Carlotta Addison makes an old lady of calm and delightful aspect.

The Vaudeville is drawing good houses with the expensively revived School for Scandal. The Opera Comique is still running Mother-in-Law. The Mascotte is running a successful career at the Cemedy Theatre. The Black Crook continues to flourish at the Alhambra. At the Criterion The Great Discourse of the School Continues to flourish at the Alhambra. vorce Case proves a renewed attraction. The Savoy indicates that Patience is not yet exhausted. The pantomime of Mother Bunch is withdrawn from the Surrey to make room for the drama of The Green Lanes of England. The pantomimes are still running at Sangers' Amphitheatre, the Standard, Britannia, Grecian, etc. At Sadler's Wells the drama of Faithful Heart remains the chief reliance of Mr. Mat. Robson's management. At the Phil-harmonic Theatre on Thursday night a benefit was given in aid of the Mansion House Fund for the relief of the persecuted Jews in Rus-sia. With next week will terminate the sea-

son of Hengler's Grand Cirque.

The Royal Avenue Theatre is now so far advanced towards completion that the date for its opening is fixed. This is the 11th March, and the piece to be played is Madame Favart, with M. Marius and Miss St. John in their

original parts.
Miss Hilda Hilton, having been ordered by

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M. GAMBETTA'S POSITION.

We are not specially concerned to defend M. Gambetta's policy in bringing forward the revision at once and making scrutin de liste one of its conditions. That is a question rather for Frenchmen themselves than for foreigners, though we cannot help thinking that a prudent statesman would have preferred to let sleeping dogs lie when there was no urgent reason for rousing them. On the other hand it cannot be denied that he is well within his right in bringing forward the revision at once. He holds that the country pronounced its judgment on the question at the late elections, and that he, as its chosen representative, is bound to fulfil its behests. This view of his duties is abundantly justified by the fact that the Committee elected by the Bureaux is not opposed to revision pure and simple. Whichever course he chose to adopt, therefore, whether to propose revision at once or to postpone it for time, he was beset with alternative dangers. Of his opponents on the Committee a large majority wishes for a more extensive revision than he has proposed, while the minority wishes for no revision at all. In any case, and at any time, he must have faced the opposition of the latter, and it remains to be seen whether he cannot either conciliate or overcome that of the former. We cannot but hope that he will succeed, not indeed because we are satisfied of the abstract wisdom of his policy, but because it is manifest that a fatal collision between himself and the Chamber would be a serious misfortune, involving interests a good deal wider than those of France alone. If he were forced by the Chamber to resign, his power and inflence in France would still remain unimpaired. He would be succeeded either would be in his hands, or by a more advanced Republican Ministry, which the country itself would distrust. In neither case would France acquire a Government possessing the stability which is essential to the welfare of the country. If M. Gambetta can surmount the difficulties which now seem to beset him, either by accepting the programme of the Committee and leaving the details of the revision to the Congress, or by some other acceptable compromise, his own stability will be reestablished, and he will be free to develop a strong and continuous policy. The evils of the present uncertainty are felt not merely in France alone. No foreign Power can be entirely free from anxiety so long as the policy of France is liable to be changed from day to day, and the engagements entered into by one Government are left to the precarious and possibly reluctant execution of another. If, for instance M. Gambetta were to be forced to resign and were followed by a series of ephemeral successors, with what prospect of success could England enter on a renewal of the commercial negotiations, and with what confidence could she look for a fulfilment of the joint engagements of the two Powers in respect of Egypt? It is not, however, England that would suffer most by the overthrow of M. Gambetta. The misfortune to France itself would be immeasurably greater. Whatever may be his fate in the Chamber, no one can doubt that he is still the most powerful man in France. If he were to lose the popular confidence, the case, of course, would be different. The vote that deposed him would also designate his successor, and the policy of France, though possibly changed, would still be intelligible and stable. But his deposition in the present circumstances would involve a collision between the country and the Legislature, and would be the inevitable signal for prolonged confusion and instability. It is singular to notice how completely the President of the Republic has effaced himself during the present crisis. M. Grévy, it is true, has always been disposed to regard himself as Chief Magistrate whose function it is rather to reign than to govern; but unless there are occasions on which a President can assert himself with advantage and interpose as a moderating force to avert disastrous collisions, and bring about politic compromises, it is not very easy to see that he serves any useful purpose. M. Grévy cannot be blind to the disadvantages imposed on France by a succession of feeble Ministries. He cannot but discern the significance of the late elections and the legitimate and constitutional power they confer on M. Gambetta. He at least is responsible for the continuity of French policy, and he must be aware that that continuity would be imperilled if M. Gam-

THE RISKS OF EGYPTIAN STOCKS. Since the present regime came into force Egypt has been favoured with good harvests, and has enjoyed excellent markets for her produce. Ends have been made to meet therefore without apparent difficulty, although we believe the real difficulty has been very considerable, so much so that the great power of the agitators, Turkish and national, springs from the

betta were replaced by a Ministry without

the authority which rests on popular con-

fidence. For ourselves we cannot but

hope that M. Gambetta will succeed

With his domestic policy we have no

direct concern. But his foreign policy

concerns England closely, and his dis-

position towards England has been a good

deal more friendly than that of many of

his predecessors. - Times.

of bad seasons come, however, and there must be immediate deficits. The new Budget promulgated last December showed a bare equilibrium, and since then it has been decided to augment the army, at the cost of another £100,000 at least. As the people have been year by year stripped of all the gains that should have come to them from the good seasons it follows that when the bad come there will be no reserves either in the coffers of the Government or in the hands of the people to fall back upon. The State coach, in short, is so overloaded that a very small stone will suffice to upset it. And here comes in another consideration of great importance. It is that a great deal of the prosperity of the past three years has been produced by outside agencies. Money-lending companies, French and English, have vied with each other in pouring money into Egypt "to develop the country." This money has taken place of the old Government borrowings in sustaining the credit of the country. Lent freely to cultivators, it has enabled them to pay their taxes for a time. Reaction, however, must come; the springs of wealth of this kind are certain to dry up. Already banking in Egypt has suffered severely by the glut of useless money, or of money that vanished like water in the desert sand, absorbed by the alldeavouring claims of the bondholders. It may be said that the failure of seasons is not a sure ground of apprehension; but of this one of a checked inflow of new capital there can be no manner of doubt. It must cease, as all other profitable enterprises do, and it may do so sooner than anticipated through the monetary troubles now developing in all Western markets. These are dangers altogether apart from those incident to the political situation, and alone afford justification for the warning that people should invest but lightly, if at all, in Egyptian securities. For the rest we may be permitted to own that our belief is small indeed in either the will or the nower of any man or set of men in Egypt to help the bondholders should the popular will be strong against the foreign Control. It is not in the nature of things that any Egyptian official, be he Turk, Arab, or Circassian, could loyally support the foreign Powers. Their mere presence is a sign of their domination; and dominant races are never loved. A danger must, therefore, lurk in the existing situation, wholly apart from any question of the community of feeling between England and France. Within Egypt itself there are thus a host of perils now only beginning to reveal their existence, and it would be folly therefore to put money into Egyptian securities at such a time. The investing public must not forget either the actual position of much of the debt. What is called the Preference Debt may be well placed, as the market phrase is; but the Unified Debt, which is nearly 62 per cent. of the entire debt of all descriptions, or over £57,000,000, is by a Reactionary Ministry, whose fate still held for the most part by speculative intermediaries. Any one investing in that part of the debt now would consequently be ultimately certain to incur great loss by the collapse of these intermediaries, no matter though Egypt was as sound financially as the United States. Such are a few of the facts and considerations affecting the financial stability of Egypt. We might easily add to them, but the thoughtful reader can do that for himself. may also, if he so pleases, discover the favourable side of the case: it is more than we are able to do .- Pall Mall Gazette.

THE WILIGS AND THE NORTH RIDING. Lord Grey and Lord Zetland, and the small handful of Whig landlords who are doing all in their power to secure the return of a Conservative and a Protectionist in the North Riding of Yorkshire, because they are so passionately desirous to deliver a severe blow to Mr. Gladstone's Government, are, the Spectator says, foolish enough to read backwards Lord Derby's striking warning to those who would keep democracy moderate by assuming the lead

of its tendencies :-No one ever uttered a wiser or weightier political aphorism than Lord Derby, in his address to the Liverpool Reform Club a fort-night ago, when he told them that in his be-lief, "the moderation, the fairness, and the general justice with which masses of men, including all conditions of life, are disposed to use their power" in this country, need nothing to perpetuate them, except that the rich should put themselves at the head of movements leading up to the necessary re-forms. That is what we have always claimed for the Whigs. It would have seemed to us hardly credible that a great peer with Lord Grey's splendid antecedents as regards Free Trade—for he was a Free Trader even before Lord John Russell or Sir Robert Peel had accepted the principle of Free Trade-should promised to support the imposition of a 5s. duty on corn—as Mr. Guy Dawnay has done in the North Riding—did we not know only too well that Lord Grey has spent threefourths of his long political career in devising stumbling-blocks for the party with whom, in early life, it was his pride and privilege to act. As for Lord Zetland, we are unable even to guess at the views which have led him to take up with the reactionary party. But of this we are quite sure—that the great Whigs who are now going over to the enemy are doing all that in them lies, not with the effect of retarding reform, though that is what they desire, but with the effect of removing whatever regulative influence they would otherwise have exerted over the prudence and the moderation of reform. Lord Grey can no more prevent the English and Scotch tenant farmers obtaining what their numbers, their influence, and the depression of their particular industry point out as ne-cessary for their position in this country, than he could, if he wished it-which, of course, he does not—restore the Protective tariff of 1841. But he can make the tenant farmers feel more keenly than they feel at present, that the great Whig families are not their true advisers; that they must go over to a stronger party than the Whigs, if they want real help that the Whig nobility are, in the words of one of them, beginning "to be found out;" and that they are no longer the leaders of the people, but only selfish representatives of a narrow caste. We do not mean that, as yet, narrow caste. We do not mean that, as yet, this is so. We earnestly desire that it never may be so. We are proud of the great leaders who, like Lord Derby at the present moment, and still more, like the Russells, the Cavendishes, and the Grosvenors, discern what privileges of the ancient days the time has privileges of the ancient days the time has now come for their order to resign, in order that they may enjoy still more fully the greatest of all privileges, that of the trust and love of the people. But we do say that those narrow-minded men who, like Lord Grey and Lord Zetland, desert the people at a moment like the present, do what is in their power— Heaven grant it be only little!—to sicken the

people of their caste, and to convince them that the old Liberal aristocracy of England

are well nigh played out.

THE FIGHTING IN HERZEGOVINA. REPULSE OF AUSTRIAN TROOPS.

The Manchester Guardian publishes a telegram from its Ragusa correspondent, dated Thursday night. Beginning with the announcement "Herzegovina has

risen," the writer continues : The focus of the insurrection lies in the district which was the scene of the first uprising against the Turks in 1875. Insurgent camps are forming in the mountains near Nevesinje, Gatkze, Gubloje, Focha, Bilek, and Trebinje. The warlike clan of Zubei, on the boarders of Crivoscia, have burned their homesteads, and have joined the insurgents under the well-known guerilla chief Vulkalovich. The villagers on the Herzegovinian frontier near Ragusa are following their example. The rising seems to have been simultaneously planned, and is not without organisation. The insurgents do not lack resources, the men receiving about 7d. and half a pound of flour daily. The Mahommedan and Orthodox population is fraternising, The Mahommedan gendarmerie is deserting en masse, the national samps naturally taking them in, with the arms and accourrements so thoughtfully distributed among them by the Austrians. Even in the Catholic district of Popovo, the well-known chief Mussich is reported to have made his appearance. On the whole the Mahommedan appearance. On the whole the manonimedan element prevails among the insurgents. At Focha a Turkish Beg has succeeded in 48 hours in raising a packed band of 240. From the Bocche di Cattaro comes the news that the inhabitants of the rocky promontory of Lustitza, noted as the fiercest of the maritime Boschesi, have expelled the Austrian posts and organised a little republic. The village of Orahovatz has also risen, and the insurrectionary movement in the highlands above the Budua, and the tract known as Austrian Albania is extending. The position of isolated Austrian posts in Upper Herzegovina is precarious, despite the feverish activity of the military authorities in despatching reinforcements. At Daban from ten to twenty soldiers have been cut to pieces. The boldness of the insurgents may be judged of by the fact that five soldiers were cut down in the very suburbs of Castelnuovo.

In a later telegram the correspondent says that a serious and prolonged engagement had been fought about Gatzko and Bilek, and it was reported that it resulted in an Austrian repulse. Telegraphing on

Friday afternoon, he adds:—
The result of the engagement is still kept dark by the authorities. Two thousand additional troops were shipped yesterday at Trieste. Ragusa forms the base of the Austrian operations against the insurement. operations against the insurgents. The plan of the campaign seems to be, by driving a military wedge forwards to the Montenegrin frontier to Bilek, to separate the Crivoscian from the Herzegovinian bands. Owing to the strength of the insurgent forces the Austrian commander withdrew from Gatzko, taking with him all the officials and public documents, and leaving this important strategic point in Herzegovinian possession. An at-tempt to reoccupy Gatzko appears to have brought on the hardly contested engagement reported.

MEETING OF TURKISH BOND-HOLDERS.

STATEMENT BY MR. BOURKE.

A meeting of the Turkish bondholders was held on Friday in Cannon-street Hotel for the purpose of hearing a statement from Mr. Bourke, M P., as to the result of his mission to Constantinople with the view of effections are accessed. effecting an arrangement of the Turkish debt. The Right Hon. E. P. Bouverie pre-sided. There was a large attendance. Mr. sided. There was a large attendance. Mr. Bourke said that when he set out a great deal was being said as to an International Financial Commission, but when he arrived at Constantinople he found that such a Commission was out of the question. The first question they had to consider when the Commission met was the amount of the public debt of Turkey. They were much appalled to learn that, in addition to the ten loans they knew so much about, they were expected to answer for the floating debt, the Russian indemnity. and the 1835 Loan. His opposition, however, led to the whole of these being withdrawn from their consideration. One of the main considerations with them was the amount of the revenues that would be placed at their disposal, but of equal importance was the constitution and powers of the new Council which were to administer the revenues. Upon the conduct of that Council the whole of the future of their property would depend, and he had to tell them that the first duty of that Council, after doing what it could for the bondholders, was to make itself a popular institution in Turkey, so that they might not be looked upon as an alien or hostile institution; but a portion of the Administration of Turkey, wishing to act equitably between the taxpayers and British bondholders. The inter-national character of the Council was, he considered, a satisfactory arragement, as it gave a guarantee for its stability. Dealing with the revenues that were promised them he said that they would get £875,000 per annum from indirect contributions alone. The contribution which was payable by Eastern Roumelia, amounting to £240,000 was also assigned to the bondholders Eastern Roumelia was nearly a year in arrears, but he hoped when the Council was established one of its first duties would be to get this money; and he saw in the budget of Eastern Roumelia that they took this as one of the charges they were bound to pay. It had been said that he had given up the tribute had been said that he had given up the tribute of Bulgaria, but that was not true. That tribute could not be given by the Porte and could not be taken by the bondholders till Europe had settled it; and Europe had not taken one step to do so. Under the circumstances, he asked the Porte what it would give in place of the tribute, and he succeeded in getting £100,000 per annum till Bulgaria was able to pay. With regard to Cyprus, he did not wish to say much; but, as a fact, between the French and English Governments, the bondholders had been deprived of the revenues of Cyprus, although in its place the revenues of Cyprus, although in its place they succeeded in getting £130,000. Altogether they had obtained £230,000 more gether they had obtained £230,000 more than they expected when they arrived at Constantinople, but still they were not satisfied, and after running the risk of a rupture they got £50,000 more. Mr. Bourke then defended the action taken by the delegates with respect to the bankers' debt, and arrelated the satisfied the satis and explained the arrangements made as to the reduction of capital. In this connection he stated that in the case of some of the later loans Turkey had only received £25, £18 £16, £17, and even £11, for £100 bonds. The reduction of the loans led to some practical difficulty, as a new price had to be attached to the new bonds. The difficulty might have been obviated by the unification of the debt. but in the present condition of Turkey that was not advisable, although it might be of advantage in a few years. Eventually they resolved that the simplest method would be to withdraw from circulation bonds representing the amount of the reduction. They would not be cancelled, and, if the iradé was broken not be cancelled, and, if the frade was proken, they would be given back to the holders. They would have been glad to have got through their labours without requiring to classify the loans, but it was found necessary to do so, and they had acted equitably and indicated. It conclusion he wild have all

A motion thanking Mr. Bourke for his services, and requesting the Council of Foreign Bondholders to carry the arrangement into effect, was then agreed to.

to do so, and they had acced equitably and judiciously. In conclusion he said he would not give an opinion further than he had done as to whether it was wise or not for them to sand in their bonds to be registered under

this agreement, but he asked them to exercise

their own judgment, and not allow themselves to be led away by persons who might not have

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, FRIDAY. The Queen and Princess Beatrice walked out yesterday afternoon, and her Majesty walked with the Princess and the Empress

The Duke of Edinburgh landed at Wick on The Duke of Edicourgh landed at Wick on Friday afternoon, and was received at Pulteney Harbour by Mr. Duff Dunbar, Sheriff Spittal, and Provost Rae. The quays were lined by the volunteers, men of the Naval Reserve, and the police, and the Duke was heartily cheered by the multitude who crowded the streets. His Royal Highness drove to Ackergill Tower, where he will remain until Monday the guest of Mr. Duff Dunbar.

Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, was on Friday night gazetted a colonel in the army.
Don Carlos Holguin, Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of St. James for the United States of Colombia, has been charged by his Government with the important mission of negotiating the renewal of diplomatic relations between Colombia and Spain. His Excel-lency's instructions and credentials reached him while travelling through Italy, and he proceeds at once to Madrid. On the completion of the negotiations he will immediately return to his post in London.

The Earl and Countess of Derby and Lady Margaret Cecil will come to town from Knowsley, for the meeting of Parliament, on or about the 30th inst. Lord and Lady Lilford, the Hon. T. A. Powys, and the Hon. J. and Hon. S. Powys have arrived at Parish's Hotel, George-street,

Hanover-square, from Brighton.

Captain Howard Bury and Lady Emily
Howard Bury have left Parish's Hotel,
George-street, Hanover-square, for the South

Sir William Richard Holmes, of Kilrea Belfast, who received the honour of Knight-hood for his services during the Constanti-nople Conference of 1876-77, died last week at the residence of a friend at Belvedere, at the age of sixty. From 1860 till 1877 he was Consul in Bosnia, and was British Delegate to the European Commission for the pacification of the Herzegovina in 1861, and Delegate to the European Commission in Herzegovina in 1875. Owing to his knowledge of the disturbed provinces of Turkey he was summoned to Constantinople during the Con-ference held in December, in 1876, and January, 1877 (which was attended by Lord Salisbury), to give information as to the state of the provinces of Turkey. Sir William, who was on the commission of the peace for the county of Londonderry, married in 1847 Adela Louisa Gohrab.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT. The following letter has been issued by the Prime Minister to his supporters in the House Hawarden Castle, January 20, 1882.

Hawarden Castle, January 20, 1852.

Sir,—The seventh of February has been appointed for the opening of the Parliamentary session; and I venture to hope you may be in your place, as matters of pressing interest will at the earliest practicable date be submitted to the House nons.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your very faithful and obedient servant,

W. E. GLADSTONE.

Lord Granville has issued the following pircular to the supporters of the Ministry in the House of Lords

18, Carlton House-terrace, January 20, 1882.

My Lord,—Parliament will assemble on February 7. Important business will be proceeded with, and I hope it may suit your convenience to be in your place at the date I have named.—I have the honour to be, my lord, your obedient servant,

THE IMPRISONED LADY LAND LEAGUERS .-The application to quash the conviction of Miss Reynolds by the Castle-town Berehaven magistrates came before the Dublin Queen's Bench Division on Thursday. Miss Reynolds was charged with inciting tenants to pay no rent, was ordered to find securities to be of good behaviour, and, refusing to do so, was committed to prison for a month. The court having heard counsel on both sides, suspended judgment. Miss Reynolds's term of imprisonment expires in a few days. A conditional ment expires in a lew days. A conditional order for quashing the sentences passed upon the lady Land Leaguers confined in Limerick Gaol was granted. Miss M Cormick, a member of the Ladies' Land League, was arrested on Thursday at Tulla, county Clare. She was holding a meeting when taken into custody. Mr. Clifford Lloyd ordered her to find bail to be of good behaviour for three months. She refused, and was sent to Ennis Gaol. A riotous mob assembled, and some arrests were made. Two prominent Land Leaguers were sent to prison for six months each for rioting, and one for three months in lefault of giving bail.

MR. DILLON.-Mr. Dillon, M.P., has been emanded for three months in Kilmainham

Gaol. It is stated that he is very ill. PRESTON ELECTION.—Friday night's Gazette contained a notice that the Speaker of the House of Commons will at the expiration of six days issue a writ for the election of a parliamentary representative for Preston. The results of the canvass for Mr. Tomlinson are stated by his committee to be overwhelmingly in his favour. Mr. Tomlinson is being urged by the heads of the Conservative party to withdraw. Sir R. A. Cross has telegraphed to him that the complete unity of the party must not be broken, and it is said that a deputation of Mr. Tomlinson's friends were on Friday seen by Sir Stafford Northcote at Exeter. A message received on Saturday morning says:—A placard was this morning issued, signed by the chairmen of the Conservative Central and Working Men's Clubs, denying that Mr. Tomlinson had ever been promised that he should be the candidate. and that no few individuals could bind the party. A conference of Mr. Tomlinson's friends took place this morning, and every arrangement is being made for a contest. Another placard has been published calling upon the electors to vote for Raikes, and re-pudiating the claims of Mr. Tomlinson.

THE TURF MARKET .- All is still as death and dull as ditchwater in racing circles, and sporting writers have long since been placed on a diet of statistics, proverbially dry and on a diet of statistics, provercianty ary and difficult to dish up with a garnish to satisfy the craving appetities of their readers. The classic races have been discussed with what little novelty there was left in such a subject, now no longer a rich field of speculation during the silly season; and for this we have to thank that much bepraised devolopment of racing, which assumes the shape of rich twoyear-old prizes, and literally takes all the shine out of the Derby, of which the result is thereby out of the Derby, of which the result is thereby of scounted. With all the best two-year-olds made to pass through various sieves in the course of the season, no wonder that "casuals," such as made the betting what it vas twenty years ago, are sent unmercifully was twenty years ago, are sent unmercifully to the wall, and, as a well-known knight of the pencil pithily put it, "What is the use of my opening a Derby book when the public cannot miss picking the winner in half-adozen?" This is the secret of the decline and extinction of winter betting on the Derby, for between public form and private information the public know a deal too much, so no wonder fielders draw in their horns. Conder fielders draw in their horns. stant competition among the flower of our two-year-olds and "reports from training quarters" have effectually removed the charm of mystery and secrecy from doings on the turf; and though a more advanced state of civilisation may be indicated thereby, we are sufficiently old fashioned to desire a return to the days when the omne ignotum pro magnifico principle gave an impetus to speculation which it can never experience again. which it can never experience again. As Admiral Rous predicted, we have drifted gradually towards a system of post betting, and the 1,000 to 15 era may be said to have passed away for ever under the new regime.

—Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News.

THE CASE OF FARMER BROOKS .- The Home Secretary has liberated the two farmers sen-tenced to penal servitude for the assault on tenced to penal servitude for the assault on Brooks. It remains to compensate them for a gross miscarriage of justice. It is alleged that the action of Dr. Warrington, the medical man who attended Brooks, has been criticised. This is not the fact. It would have been monstrous had he been consured. A medical witness is solaly at the warry of the medical witness is solely at the mercy of the court and counsel—he can only answer the questions put to him; and in this instance it appears that not one of the lawyers en-gaged had the wit to ask whether the case might not be one of imposture or disease. Had this possibility suggested itself to the mind of any one concerned the true nature of the occurrence would probably have been recognised, and the fearful and cruel wrong done in the name of blind justice avoided. As we pointed out last week, cases of this class will continue to occur until the Legisla-ture is brought to see that lawyers are incompetent to deal with medical questions, and that the scientific issues raised in the course of judicial proceedings should be referred, as questions of fact, to the decision of a court of nedical experts.-Lancet.

FOXHUNTERS AND FARMERS.—The importance of the rebuke lately administered by the Duke of Beaufort to certain members of his hunt has been considerably increased and extended, not only by quotations on the part of the London and provincial press, but also through reproduction by the executive of other hunts, as a timely admonition which they feel may well be administered to their own followers, and in no more effective shape than by re-issue to the latter of the duke's ipsissima verba on the subject of wanton injury to agri-culture by many who ride hounds. It is not fair to suppose, because this public admoni-tion has first emanated from the master of the Beaufort hunt, that the field of the latter is necessarily worse-behaved and less controlled than others; on the contrary, all who know the manner in which the duke bears rule in the field with his own hounds, will admit that no master exercises more stringent or more effectual supervision over his followers; in fact, it is only his anxiety for even greater decorum than that which he has so far been personally able to enforce, that has in-duced him to issue his manifesto. Any remarks of his which thrust home to cer-tain members of the Beaufort hunt, apply with greater force when repeated to members of the majority of other hunts. When we compare the preportion of owners of severe compare the proportion of owners of coverts, compare the proportion of owners of coverts, as against farmers whose loyalty to the hunting interests of a locality is under suspicion (and all know what that means, though overt proofs of vulpecide is often wanting), the percentage of the disaffected will, as a rule, be found to be far less among the agriculturists than among game-preservers; and yet turists than among game-preservers; and yet the stakes at issue on the part of either class will not bear comparison. The one has only will not bear comparison. The one has only sport and pheasants to protect; the other capital and livelihood. Perhaps no fact tells more in favour of the long-suffering of the farmer class than that the more well-to-do classes, if piqued at a trampled lawn, or the disturbance in the middle of a run of a covert full of home-reared birds, are more prone to cherish animosities and less inclined to practise forbearance than those whose £ s. d. are at stake and who can far less afford to be out of power to oblige their neighbours—the majority of whom do not even pretend to be on social terms with them. Hunting men should look upon their sport more in the light of a privilege, and less of an hereditary right .- The Field.

A SINGULAR GYPSY TRIBE. The Civil and Military Gazette alludes to a wandering tribe which has caused some curiosity in Madras, and which it thinks may possibly be identified with a singular class of gypsies known by the name of Mayadds, who visited Lahore in 1868, and a curious and interesting account of whom is published in a memorandum written by Dr. Leitner, and printed by the Punjab Government. "In that year a large crowd of them arrived on foot and in carts from Afghanistan, and encamped for some little time in this place. They spoke a pecu-liar jargon among themselves, though when within earshot of Europeans and Indians they spoke Persian. At first, it seems, there was a difficulty in identifying even their place of abode, but officers from various parts of India affirmed that the noisy and quarrelsome strangers were in the way of passing peri-odically between this country and Central Asia, and that they had an unpleasant habit of looting villages on their route. The Mayadds were always armed on reaching the Indian frontier, a fact for which they accounted by saying that they were Shiahs, whom, as every one knows, their Sunni co-religionists sometimes manage to sell as slaves. 'When,' says Dr. Leitner, 'I visited their encamp-ment, their frantic gesticulations and the hurling of children by one woman to another in order to emphasise her rage, reminded me of a scene recorded in my account of the Gypsies of Turkey. . . . when a case was decided in favour of that side in a tribal contention which could dance most obscenel and use the strongest expressions whilst advocating their own cause.' Others of the same tribe appear to have visited Lahore in Their Central Asiatic home is said to be Khorassan, and it seems that their journey from one country to another and back extend over many years. A partial vocabulary of the dialect of thieves' Latin used by the Mayadds, has, we believe, been compiled by Dr. Leit-CETEWAYO INTERVIEWED BY A LADY .- A lady

from Chester, who is at present at Capetown paid a visit in company with some friends to Cetewayo, in December. The following is an extract from a letter sent to a relative:—
"We were taken into a sort of office and entered our names, and after waiting till his entered our names; and after watting till his Highness had put on some clothes, which I believe he does when ladies visit, we were taken to the house where, in a square hall, polished floor, a few chairs and boxes, sat the king and his interpreter. We shook hands, and were seated in front of him. Asked how he was, and were informed that he could not be well in captivity, and would like to be in his own country again; also, would like to see our Queen and tell her everything him-self. He does not speak English at all. He sits quite still, and only moves his head from side to side when he speaks, and scarcely looks at you, and without any change of expression. His voice is gruff, and sounds muzzled, like coming out of a barrel. He takes his captivity hard, and frets. He is dressed in a navy blue suit and smoking cap. One of the officers from the camp, who was one who assisted in capturing the king, said that when caught he wore a splendid tiger skin and a coloured cloth over his shoulders and neck, and considered him spoiled in a navy blue suit. He is a big, fat man, with a soft hand and long nails, and shows a splendid row of white teeth. I asked him for his signature, which he gave, and which I en-close; he wrote it on the back of a chair placed between his knees. We went to another room to see his wives-four of them. They make bead necklaces, etc., and people buy them. We gave them some sweetmeats, and they seemed very pleased."

THE GULF STREAM AND THE PANAMA CANAL. -Professor James Geikie, F.R.S., in a recent communication to the British Trade Journal, discusses the influence of the Gulf Stream in ameliorating the climate of Western Europe, and the effect of its with-drawal from these regions. According to Dr. Croll, the eminent geologist, the total quantity of heat conveyed by this ocean current is equal to that of a stream of water 50 miles broad and 1,000 feet deep, having a mean temperature of 65 deg. Fahr., and flowing at the rate of four miles an hour. This represents a total quantity of heat transferred from the tropics to the north, equivalent to 154,959,800,000,000,000,000 foot-

pounds per diem. Even if this estimate be reduced one-half, the stoppage of the Gulf Stream would deprive the Atlantic of a quan-tity of heat equal to one-fourth of all that received directly from the sun in that area. The warming influence of the Gulf Stream is evident from the mean temperature of spots on the same parallel of north latitude in Europe and America. Thus, at Bordeaux in N. lat. 44 deg. 50 min. the mean winter temperature is + 41 deg. Fahr., and the mean summer temperature is + 69.1 deg. Fahr.; whereas at Halifax, Nova Scotia, the corresponding temperatures are + 29.6 and The warming influence of the Gulf Stream is sponding temperatures are + 22.6 and + 63.5. Again, in Scotland the winter + 63.5. Again, in Scotland the winter and summer means are 38.5 deg. and 56.5 deg., whereas at Hebron, in Labrador, they are respectively - 5.1 deg. and + 46.1 deg. In the event of the Gulf Stream being stopped the polar currents flowing south would occupy a great part of the Atlantic, and the westerly winds, instead of being warm and moist, as they are now, would become cold and ungenial, and a large part of our islands, together with Scandinavia. part of our islands, together with Scandinavia, would become uninhabitable by civilised man. Within the human epoch Northern Europe has experienced both a colder and a warmer period than that now pravilled. period than that now prevailing. The Arctic fox, glutton, and reindeer once prowled in the forests of northern France; and, on the other forests of northern France; and, on the other hand, the figtree and canary laurel once flourished in the vicinity of Paris, while elephants, lions, and tigers ranged in the forests of the Thames. These climatic changes were probably due, Mr. Geikie thinks, to some alteration of the Gulf Stream, although no trace of any submergence of the lathmus of Darien has been observed as yet. The depth of submergence of this neck of land would require to be not less than 800ft. or 1,000ft in order to divert the whole of the Gulf Stream into the Pacific; and, therefore, the construction of the Panama Canal "will have as much effect upon the Gulf Stream and the climate of north-western Europe as the emptying of a teapotful of bolling water into the Arctic Ocean would have in raising the snuual temperature in Greenland."—

DEATH OF MR. JOHN LINNELL.-Mr. John Linnell, the artist, died on Friday afternoon at his house at Redhill. He was born in London in June, 1792, painted in oil as early as 1804, and was, about 1805, a pupil of John Varley, the father of the existing school of water-colour painting. He first exhibited at the Academy in 1807, "Fishermen, a Scene from Nature." He obtained a medal at the Royal Academy in that year for a drawing from the life, and another in 1810 for the best model from the life, and the prize of 50 guineas at the British Institution for the landscape and portraits at the Academy in 1821. During the interval he painted many views in Wales and elsewhere, and from 1818 till 1820 he exhibited at the Society in Spring Gardens. Throughout the earlier part of his career he painted a much larger number of career he painted a much larger number of portraits than of landscapes.

EXPLOSIONS ON BOARD WARSHIPS.—Vice-Admiral Luard, President of the committee appointed to investigate the cause of coalappointed to investigate the cause of coal-gas explosions in the Navy, was in confe-rence with the Lords of the Admiralty on Friday, the Controller of the Navy being also present, with reference to the explosion on board the *Doterel*, and the use of xerotine siccative on board her Majesty's vessels of war. The officials of the Construction Department—whose evidence at the court-mar-tial was not in accord with that of some of -maintain that the facts inst dis covered in connection with the siccative on board the Doterel sustain their opinion that the destruction of that vessel was not owing to any fault in the construction of the coalbunkers. The two primary points which will be considered by the committee are whether this xerotine siccative was submitted to the chemists of the Admiralty, and what report was made thereon. It is understood that a "special and urgent" circular will at once be issued to the commanders of her Majesty's ships on the subject of storing the siccative-pending the decision of the com-

A PHANTOM SHIP .- A strange occurrence is reported from Canton, Chesapeake Bay. The schooner Sheldrake, which was a regular trader between Boston and Havre, was missing for some weeks, and her owner, Mr. J. S. Wilson, of Havre, visited Canton on the 6th inst. to see if he could learn anything of his vessel. Mr. Wilson found her moored to a wharf and quite deserted. Her decks were covered with snow, and the absence of any footprints indicated that no one had been on board for some days before. On going to the cabin of the vessel Mr. Wilson found the door was fastened, so that it was necessary to break it open to gain admittance. When this was done and the cabin entered, Captain Smith, of the Sheldrake, was discovered in one of the berths with his head crushed in and quite dead. How long the unfortunate man had been dead there was nothing to show.

A FARMER SHOT BY A POACHER.-A farmer was shot by a poacher, at Rowgate, near Malton, on Thursday night. Mr. John Sellers was returning from his sheepfold when he saw two poachers at work in a grass field. He called to them, and one said to the other, "Put a cap on your gun and shoot him."
The poacher immediately did so, and the charge struck Mr. Sellers full in the face and in the right shoulder. He was afterwards removed home, and it is hoped the shot will not prove fatal. Mr. Sellers recognised one of the fellows, and the police have taken into of the fellows, and the police have taken into custody a labourer named John Davidson.

REPORTED DISCOVERY OF MR. POWELL'S Bony.-The Daily News published on Saturday a telegram from its Marseilles correspondent aunouncing that a message had been received there from St. Jacques stating that the balloon "Saladin," with the dead body of Mr. Powell, M.P., had been found on the Sierra del Pedroso Mountains, Galicia, Spain.—A telegram however from another source, dated Santiago, January 20, states:—The journal Libraton, of this city, which on the 19th inst. announced that travelling hawker of a newspaper had found the remains of Mr. Walter Powell on the Sierra del Pedroso Mountains, to-day states subsequent inquiry proves the news of the discovery to have been false.

SERIOUS FIRE AT THE HAMMERSWITH RAIL-SERIOUS FIRE AT THE HAIMERSMITH RAIL-WAY STATION—Hammersmith Station, on the District Railway, was destroyed by fire at an early hour on Friday morning. The station is situated in the Broadway, and was a fine structure, having been enlarged and improved about two years ago. Traffic is seriously interfered with, all the passengers having to walk to the next station, West Kensington, in order to reach London. Everything was apparently safe, when the station was closed apparently safe when the station was closed soon after midnight. The fire broke out soon after 1.30 a.m., and quickly spread, the booking office, with all the papers, being destroyed. Fortunately, however, the books and money which were in the safe were preserved. The fire is supposed to have originated in the porters' room, through the gas there having een left burning.

THE CAPTURE OF ENGLISHMEN BY TURKISH BRIGAMS.—The Foreign Office has published the correspondence which took place with the Turkish Government respecting the capture of Mr. Suter by brigands. The correspondence concludes with a note from Lord Dufferin to Assim Pacha, dated Oct. 10, 1881, in which he requests the Minister to cause immediate orders to be given for the repayment of the ransoms of Colonel Synge and Mr. Suter, amounting in all to £25,040 15s.11d. His lordship adds that "it is with great regret that her Majesty's Government would see themselves compelled to resort to such means as are at their disposal for the recovery of the sums demanded."

Head Office:-PARIS, No. 224, RUE DE

lief, "the moderation, the fairness, and the

general justice with which masses of men,

including all conditions of life, are disposed

to use their power" in this country, need

nothing to perpetuate them, except that the

rich should put themselves at the head of

movements leading up to the necessary re-

forms. That is what we have always claimed

for the Whigs. It would have seemed to us hardly credible that a great peer with Lord

Grey's splendid antecedents as regards Free Trade—for he was a Free Trader even before

Lord John Russell or Sir Robert Peel had

accepted the principle of Free Trade-should

actually wish success to a candidate who has

promised to support the imposition of a 5s. duty on corn—as Mr. Guy Dawnay has done

in the North Riding-did we not know only

too well that Lord Grey has spent three-fourths of his long political career in devising stumbling-blocks for the party with whom, in early life, it was his pride and privilege to act. As for Lord Zetland, we are un-

able even to guess at the views which have

led him to take up with the reactionary party. But of this we are quite sure—that the few

great Whigs who are now going over to the

enemy are doing all that in them lies, not with

the effect of retarding reform, though that is what they desire, but with the effect of re-

moving whatever regulative influence they

would otherwise have exerted over the

prudence and the moderation of reform, Lord

Grey can no more prevent the English and

Scotch tenant farmers obtaining what their

numbers, their influence, and the depression

of their particular industry point out as ne-cessary for their position in this country, than

he could, if he wished it-which, of course,

he does not-restore the Protective tariff of

1841. But he can make the tenant farmers

feel more keenly than they feel at present, that the great Whig families are not their true

advisers; that they must go over to a stronger

party than the Whigs, if they want real help

that the Whig nobility are, in the words

one of them, beginning "to be found out;" and that they are no longer the leaders of the

people, but only selfish representatives of a

narrow casie. We do not mean that, as yet, this is so. We earnestly desire that it never

may be so. We are proud of the great leaders

who, like Lord Derby at the present moment,

and still more, like the Russells, the Caven-

dishes, and the Grosvenors, discern what privileges of the ancient days the time has

now come for their order to resign, in order

that they may enjoy still more fully the greatest

of all privileges, that of the trust and love of the people. But we do say that those narrow-

Zetland, desert the people at a moment like the present, do what is in their power—

Heaven grant it be only little !-- to sicken the

people of their caste, and to convince them that the old Liberal aristocracy of England

THE APOLOGISTS OF JEW-BAITING.

During the past week, the Saturday

Review says, a very curious spectacle has

been seen in England. The abominable

outrages to which for months past the

Jews of Russia have been subjected had

been laid bare, and it could only be sup-

posed that the national conscience, of

which so much has been heard of late

To do the national conscience justice, it

has answered to the call not indeed with

all that enthusiasm which might have been

expected, but with a certain unanimity. The

Pall Mall Gazette and the Spectator may be

left to fight out the question whether it is more wicked to demand that Mr. Gladstone

shall not keep silence as to the outrages in

the Ukraine, or to throw in the teeth of the

Jews that they are only getting as good as

they gave some years ago. The political

morality which puts so many rapes and mur-

ders in Bulgaria in one side of the balance,

and so many murders and rapes in Russia in

another, and adjudges the palm to the Czar

or the Sultan, according to the turn of the

scale, is too wonderful and excellent for ordinary folk. The one thing that is plain is

that atrocities in Turkey and atrocities in

Russia stand on the same footing, whatever

that footing may be. If such things are a

life of a nation then the Bulgarian agita-

tion was a "flagitious" attempt to make

party capital out of humanity "-the words

are those of the Pall Mall Gazette in reference

to the present discussion. If the harrying of

large numbers of peaceable citizens for no

crime except that they are less stupid and less

lazy than their fellow-citizens-and this is the

only excuse brought forward by all the apolo-

gists of Jew-baiting-is an international as

well as a national crime, then it behoves

Mr. Gladstone to assume, not perhaps the same attitude as he did in reference to Turkey

emphasize that attitude far more strongly,

intending it, the shameless arguments of the

THE SITUATION IN BURMAH.

telegraphed on Sunday :-

The Calcutta correspondent of the Times

The news from Mandalay is such as to lead

to the belief that a crisis may occur at any moment. There seems to be no doubt that

the King's recent illness was delirium tre-

disease in the municipal

years, would be thoroughly aroused

are well nigh played out.

led men who, like Lord Grey and Lord

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A Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 22-23, 1882.

THE "QUARTERLY REVIEW" ON THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT.

The political article in the new number of the Quarterly Review is, as its title imports, a vigorous and searching review of the proceedings of the Government during their two years of office. It is unnecessary to say that it is written with clearness and ability. From one point of view it is, of course, a prolonged invective against the policy of the Government at home and abroad; but for every accusation, whether explicitly or implicitly made, it furnishes the specific testimony of facts. Ministers are themselves put into the witness box. They are judged, not by the words of their opponents, or even of their own irresponsible supporters, but out of their own lips. The Reviewer endeavours to ascertain the principle, or the want of principle, by which their action is regulated, from the statements which they themselves have placed publicly on record. It is true that the article is critical only. It does not come within its writer's province to formulate an alternative policy, and, indeed, in the course of the first few pages he declares, with marked significance, that before the Conservatives can be fairly expected to take office Ministers must face more fully than they have yet done the consequences of the actions for which they are responsible. The chief value of the article, therefore,

lies in the fact that it is an honest and capable attempt to mature the political opinion of the country, and to supply it in a compendious shape with the data on which it should be based. The writer naturally devotes the greater part of his observations to the burning question of Ireland; starting from the time when, just before acceding to office, Mr. Gladstone-in opposition to Lord Beaconsfield's warning that a danger scarcely less disastrous than pestilence or famine was impending-boldly declared that there was a feeling of comfort and satisfaction in that country unknown in its previous history down to the present hour when, as the Reviewer sardonically puts it, Ireland is governed by the most severe Coercion Act of this generation, and Irish patriots are lodged in British Bastilles. Who is it that has caused this startling change? Mercileasly analysing the course of events, the Reviewer traces the responsibility to the doors of Downing-street, and fastens upon the Prime Minister the charge of having wantonly evoked the demons he now finds himself powerless to lay. The "infinitely disgraceful admission" that the Land League was not dissolved at an

back upon, and the Government no excuse for introducing their Land Bill, is condemned with unsparing severity; and the appeal of the Prime Minister to the Divine light of justice" is answered with an outburst of moral scorn which is perhaps the best, and is certainly the most natural, response to such a misapplication of sacred sanctions. A contrast of telling significance is drawn between the attitude of Mr. Gladstone when he clamoured for a meeting of the Cabinet on the news of outrages in Bulgaria, and the happy nonchalant frame of mind with which the Premier and his colleagues dispersed to their homes, "leaving helpless women and children to the tender mercies of Captain Moorlight and Rory of the Hills." The article will no doubt be denounced as a Party attack. The question, however, is,

earlier period because the tenants of

Ireland would have no organisation to fall

Are the statements contained in it just? That the writer has done his utmost to damage the reputation of the Ministry, and to discredit the pretensions of the Liberal Party, is certain. Has he succeeded? Are his facts correct? Is it true, as he says, that if fewer landlords are now shot in Ireland, it is only because fewer landlords resist? It is true that every form of intimidation and lawlessness was in operation for months before the Government attempted seriously to grapple with them? Is it true that the Prime Minister publicly declared that Mr. Dillon 'a man of a perfect, unswerving integrity, an opponent I am glad to honom;" that Mr. Dillon threw back the compliment with scorn, affirming that Mr. Gladstone's success in life was due to "a singular git, of skilful misrepresentation; and that the reupon Mr. Dillon was then clapped into prison? Is it true that the Prime Minister apparently " makes words mean one thing one day, and a totally different thing, or nothing whatever, the next?" Is it the fact, or an exaggeration, that "thousands of estimable persons reposed unlimited confidence in his promises about Ircland, just as they would believe him to-morrow if he assured them that he had suddenly been gifted with the power to perform miracles?" Is it the fact that Mr. Bright declared of the Irish

policy of the Liberal party, "I see it giving

tranquillity to our people, greater strength

to the realm, new lustro and new dignity

added to the Crown?" Is it accurate to

essert that of the two most able organs of

French Liberal opinion, one of them has

described the Land Act as " a law of con-

fiscation," and the other, inspired by so

advanced a Radical as M. Gambetta.

has designated it as "a strong dose of

socialism?" These are the quotations,

assertions, and charges made by the Quar-

terly Reviewer; and if it be impossible to

rebut them, will they be affected by the

entort that they form the basis of a Party

attack ?-Standard.

THE WHIGS AND THE NORTH RIDING.

Lord Grey and Lord Zetland, and the small handful of Whig landlords who are doing all in their power to secure the return of a Conservative and a Protectionist in the North Riding of Yorkshire, because they are so passionately desirous to deliver a severe blow to Mr. Gladstone's Government, are, the Spectator says, foolish enough to read backwards Lord Derby's striking warning to those who would keep democracy moderate by assuming the lead

of its tendencies :No one ever attered a wiser or weightier political aphorism than Lord Derby, in his address to the Liverpool Reform Club a fort-

THE NEPAUL CONSPIRACY.

The Calcutta correspondent of the Times, telegraphing on Sunday, says:-Further details have now been received of the conspiracy in Nepaul. It appears that a number of persons, chiefly officers in the army, have been plotting for some years past to murder certain members of the royal family, especially the Prime Minister, the Commanderin-chief, and their sons. Having long failed to find an opportunity to do this, they at last determined to imitate the example set years ago by the late Jung Bahadoor, and throw a bomb into the room where the Ministers were assembled in council. Some of the conspirators were to station themselves at the doors, so as to cut down anyone attempting to escape. If the plot succeeded the news was to be sent to the remaining conspirators, who were absent in the camp with the Prime Minister, and they were to rise and murder him. and they were to rise and mitter film.

does not appear whether they had any design against the life of the young Maharajah, but it is probable that they only meant to get rid of the Ministry and put themselves in their place. Just be-fore the appointed day, one of the conspira-tors betrayed the plot. A number of arrests were made, and 21 officers of all ranks, vary-

ing from that of colonel to that of subadar, confessed and were all executed on the The latest news, dated Khatmandu, the 20th inst., is that no further executions had taken place, but severely repressive measures had been adopted, and large gifts of money had been distributed to the priests and troops. The officers who were executed were defiant to the last, and expressed their regret at the failure of the plot. The country is reported to be quiet and open. Mr. Girdlestone, the British Resident, has, doubtless, arrived at Khatmandu by this time. No danger to him or to the members of the mission is anticipated, but, as a precautionary measure, the cavalry outpost at Spowlie, on the borders of the Terai, 100 miles to the south of Khatmandu, has been reinforced by one squadron of native cavalry. General Juggut Jung Ba-hadoor, of the Nepaul army, who lately passed through Calcutta on a pilgrimage to

THE HERZEGOVINA REVOLT.

Poores, has been recalled by telegram. He is an influential member of the Royal family.

The Standard has received the subjoined despatch dated Sunday night from its

Vienna correspondent :-Intelligence from the south is scarce to-day, owing partly to the interruption of telegraphic communication, but chiefly to the fact that the authorities have prohibited the telegraphing of news from the scene of the insurrec-We are, therefore, reduced to correspondence by letter, which is only possible twice a week. Warlike operations may be expected now at any moment. Large as is the army assembled south, a few thousand active insurgents are quite capable of keeping it occupied, and, indeed, wearying it out. Often a whole battalion is kept on the alert by ten or a dozen men, who disappear in the woods and caverns, and suddenly reappear in some new and unexpected place. Sometimes the insurgents will venture on an expedition northwards, where complete calm the Austrians to place their troops everywhere. For the latter there is no glory, but only privation, in store, just as in 1878, when all fuel, and even the fresh water for the men and horses, had to be brought from Austria or Hungary. At that time as much as a hundred florins were often offered in vain for a plank bed or shelter, and officers, even the Generals themselves, were frequently brought to death's door by their privations. Provisions worth millions were carried away by the floods, which are common in these bleak

and mountainous regions.

It is ridiculous to suppose that a serious insurrection in Bosnia can be quelled at a cost of ten or fourteen millions. In 1878 every thousand men there cost one million florins, or a hundred pounds sterling each man. Although Princes Nikita and Milan really desire to falfil their international obligations, they will be utterly powerless to do so should this insurrection assume considerable proportions. The Montenegrins consider that part of the Herzegovina in right belongs to them, and similarly the Servians lay claim to part of Bosnia. Moreover, the Albanians are eager to renew their struggle for independence. The Berlin Treaty, it is feared, may soon be upset, which would necessarily lead to very serious consequences; but the authorities say that for the next week or two it is probable only small skirmishes will occur. Later, when the mountain snows melt and the ensuing floods come on, impeding the progress of the regular troops, the rising may be expected to assume formidable proportions. The interval will be improved by the Austrians to collect their troops, to provide food, hospital accommodation, waggons, nurses, and all other preparations requisite for the campaign. The general staff is now industriously studying what perhaps will prove to be the seat of the next great war.

Amongst the latest measures reported we learn that the Mostar garrison has been hastily strengthened, and more troops have been sent to Bilek, which is threatened by the insurgents, under Osman Tanovics, with whom a hattalion of the Schmerling Regiment yesterday had a skirmish, three of the insurgents being killed. An Italian agitator, travelling as a "cheap jack," named Tomaso Arropardo, has beer arrested at Bilek, but was bailed out by a Bank. At Agram and other places in Croatia secret conscriptions are being made for the insurgents.

THE APPROACHING ROYAL

MARRIAGE. The correspondent of the Standard at the Hague telegraphed on Sunday night :-The Princess of Waldeck-Pyrmont, mother of Queen Emma and of the Princess Helena of Waldeck, the fiancee of Prince Leopold, will arrive shortly at the Hague on a visit to the King and Queen of the Netherlands. The Princess will, it is believed, remain as a guest at the Dutch Court until the marriage of Prince Leopold, when it is probable that she will accompany King William and Queen Emma on their journey to London. It has been arranged that, shortly before the marriage, their Dutch Majesties will be brought to England by the Royal yacht Falcon, which will take their Majesties on board at Flushing and land them at Queenborough. The retinue of their Majesties will include the Countesses van Ittersum and van de Poll, and three gentlemen of the Court, Admiral Jonkheer van Capellen, Colonel Jonkheer Alewyn and Lieutenant de Ranitz. The Belgian papers state that the King and Queen of Belgium will also be among the guests of Queen Victoria at the time of the marriage of Prince Leopold. The statement however, requires confirmation.

mens, and it was felt that his life was hardly worth a day's purchase. Should he die, there is certain to be a struggle for the throne, and even if he lives, an explosion of madness may occur at any time. Two new Queens are said to have supplanted the head Queen in Thebaw's affections and their place is secure. Constant intrigues are reported. The King sold seven new monopolies last December. Altogether, the outlook is gloomy in the extreme. The Indian Press is already beginning to hint at the necessity of an early interference on our part, and some papers recommend the annexation of Upper Burmah. Without going this length, there is only too good a ground for believing that we may soon find ourselves called upon to put an end to the misrule which must prevail so long as this young savage sits on the throne or to the anarchy which will most surely follow his death. There are few English residents at Mandalay, but a considerable number of foreigners, chiefly Italians and French. Their presence lends another ele-ment to possible complications. Every man at Mandalay carries his life in his hand. Should a massacre of the Europeans take place—and it may take place any day—we may have to protect or avenge the subjects of foreign European Powers; for, of course, we could never permit any interference by their

own Governments. The Indian Government is about to establish a Chief Court for British Burmah. The Tribunal will, it is said, consist of two civilian and one barrister Judge. The Rangoon merchants asked for two barristers and one civilian—an arrangement which would have been better suited to the province, where a large proportion of the cases are of a commercial nature and such as could best be tried by trained lawyers. The influence of the civil service, however, was strong enough to override the wishes and interests of the nonSTATE OF IRELAND.

ARCHBISHOP MACCARE ON SECRET SOCIETIES In the chapels of the diocese of Dublin, a astoral letter was read on Sunday from Archbishop MacCabe, in the concluding paragraph of which he says: Our afflicted peo-ple stand in great need of grace from God and wise counsel from those in whom they trust. Centuries of wrongs have done much to crush their energies and almost to extinguish their last ray of hope, and, in the condition of almost reckless desperation to which bad laws reduced them, they wereand it is hard to wonder at it-prepared to grasp at any remedy which promised even an alleviation of their woes. The secret conspirator was never slow to avail himself of his opportunity in the illegal societies, which resulted in midnight atrocities, and which worked out their mission by sending his dupes to lifelong slavery or death itself. But before the dissolution of these societies the hidden and unscrupulous leaders gathered the spoils of their iniquity by trafficking in the blood of their deluded victims. The monster has again raised his head amongst us, and the voice of warning must come from the faithful guardians of the fold, if that fold is to be saved from further ravages. Much has been already done to redress the long-standing wrongs of our people. Time and the power of honest public opinion will gradually but surely destroy the last vestige of unjust laws. Meanwhile, we must pray earnestly to God that our people may not listen to the open or secret abottors of violence or injustice, or to the counsellors of extravagant expectations; but that, being "wise with sobriety," they may earn from the Almighty Lord of Justice the protection of His Divine providence by which our dear country may once more become the joyful mother of countless happy and conte

The Archbishop of Cashel (Dr. Croker) having paid a private visit on Sunday to the Rev. Dr. Power, Bishop of Waterford, three local bands, accompanied by a large crowd, proceeded to the bishop's residence, adjoining St. John's College, and gave him a re-ception. His Grace addressed the crowd at some length, observing that the country had made great progress during the past thirty years, and would make more during the next twenty than during the past hundred years. Rack rents have been cut down so that the entire rental of Ireland would probably be reduced one-fourth, or, say, five millions yearly, a sum which would go into the pockets of tenant-farmers. He had retired from political life in 1848, but (he observed) this movement which Saturday's papers said he had baptised was different from other movements, for it had a backbone. He protested against emigration, which was greater

from Ireland than from any other country.

At the Claremorris Quarter Sessions, held on Saturday, before Mr. J. H. Richards, County Court Judge, upwards of 500 decrees for possession and recovery of rents were granted against teneral in the distance. granted against tenants in the district. Mr. Nolan Farrell was plaintiff in about 200 cases, and refused offers made by the tenants. In almost every case the tenants have served

originating notices for a judicial rent.
At a special meeting of the newly-formed Irish Land League at Birmingham, held on Sunday night, at the Catholic Bartholomew-street, under the presidency of Mr. J. F. Cassidy, subscriptions were raised towards the national fund for the support of the Irish political prisoners. The chairman stated that the receipts were increasing, and that the people of Ulster and elsewhere were beginning to find that Messrs. Parnell and Dillon were the greatest friends the Irish had ever held. (Cheers). He moved, "That we tender our hearty thanks to the minerity of six in the Birmingham Town Council voted in favour of granting the use of the Town Hall to Miss Parnell, and, at the same time, we heartily condole with the majority in the miserable position in which they are placed, for we well know if they did not obey the decree of the "Caucus King," he would relegate them to the obscurity from which he originally drew them. We further protest against the assertion of the Mayor in his letter that the leaders of the Land League have encouraged secret vengeance-an allegation for which there is not a shade or shadow of proof." The resolution was seconded by Mr. Hooban, who said the present Government was the offspring of the Birmingham caucus. Oa the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. W. Kelly (Vice-President), it was unanimously resolved: That we tender our heartfelt thanks to his Excellency the French Ambassador for his noble and truly liberal protest to the English Government against evictions and the other resources of civilisation peculiar to the British Government now in operation in Ireland."

POLITICAL SPEECHES.

(for his defenders may be granted their chicane about the responsibility of England for Turkish rule), but the same attitude as he did in reference to Naples. It behoves him to A building was opened in Burton on Saturday which Mr. M. T. Bass, M.P., has erected, because the wrong in the case of Russia at a cost of thirty-five thousand pounds, and is infinitely greater than it was in the case of presented to the town for social and political Naples, where, as in Turkey, there was at purposes. It is called the St. Paul's Institute. any rate some pretence of political misde-In the evening a great meeting was held in meanour on the part of the sufferers. Out of this dilemma there is no escape, and it is the Skating Rink, which was addressed by several members of the Government and of a hard saying that it is not to be put because Parliament. Sir Henry James spoke of the it is troublesome to the party which happens legislation accomplished by the present Governto be in power. Those who argue in this ment, and the obstruction which threatened to prevent further progress. The learned At-torney General concluded with a brief fashion simply echo, though no doubt without Germans and Russians, who, in their terror of reference to the pending election in the North Jewish competition, frankly apologise for out-

Sir William Harcourt, speaking at Burton on Saturday, said he had no fear on account of the big words in the recent speeches of political opponents; when they met in the House of Commons they would be found to be only tall talk. The Government had no need to fear so long as they had the support of the country; and he could say with confidence that the Liberal Party everywhere was never in better heart.

The present Parliament was elected to do a great deal of work, and in order to do it the machine must be in good order, which the House of Commons admittedly was not. What they had to do was to secure that, after full and fair discussion, there would be the certainty of a final decision within a reasonrights of the majority should not be oppressed and destroyed. The Home Secretary also referred to the North Riding election and to

Mr. Childers attended the distribution of prizes to the Sheffield Artillery Volunteers on Saturday, and in addressing those assembled dwelt upon the steps which have recently been taken by the War Office with a view to induce Volunteer officers to study tactics. He urged Volunteers not to rest satisfied until they had made themselves second-class shots, and he intimated that he hoped soon after Parliament met to explain his proposals with the object of improving the shooting in her Majesty's forces. Touching the scheme to bring the Militia Artillery and Royal Artillery into more harmonious working, he avowed a desire to extend the same system to the

Volunteer Artillery.
Mr. Mundella on Saturday received a deoutation from the Teachers' Association of Liverpool, who pointed out to him several matters arising out of the new Education Code in which they felt deep interest. The right hon. gentleman, in reply, alluded to the arrangements for inspection, security of tenure for the teachers, their remuneration, miformity of standard, and other considerations that had been urged upon him, and generally maintained the justice and bene-

ficial character of the Code. Mr. Forster on Saturday received a deputa-tion of Irish National-school Teachers, who complained of receiving a smaller income than teachers in England and Scotland, said of the present unsatisfactory regulations as to

pensions. The Chief Secretary replied that part of their grievances arose from the local authorities not having contributed their share towards the cost of public education, and that Parliament would be very loth to increase the proportion now paid by the national taxpayer.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, SATURDAY. The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Abercromby, and the Hon. Victoria Baillie. The Queen visited the Duke and Duchess of Connaught at Bagshot Park to day. Her Majesty, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., and Major-General Du Plat, Equerry-in-Waiting, left Osborne at half-past nine o'clock, and crossed to Stoke's Bay in her Majesty's yacht Alberta, Captain Thomson. Her Majesty travelled by a special train on the South-Western Railway to Bagshot Station, where her Majesty was received by the Duke of Connaught, who drove with the Queen to Bagshot Park. Her Majesty left Bagshot after lunchon, and returned by the same route to Trinity Pier, East Cowes, arriving at Osborne at a quarter past five o'clock. Princess Beatrice, attended by Mile. Norèle, visited the Empress Eugénie at Osborne Cottage this morning and remained to luncheon.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice and the members of the Royal Household attended Divine service at Osborne this morning. The Hon. and Rev. Francis Byng, M.A., chaplain in ordinary to the Queen, and vicar of St. Peter's, South Kensington, officiated.

The Prince and Princess of Wales hunted with the West Norfolk hounds on Saturday, the meet being at Harpley, a few miles distant. The Prince of Leiningen having concluded his visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales,

left Sandringham on Saturday.

The Duchess of Connaught and Strathearn continues to make most satisfactory progress. The infant Princess is also quite well. Count Munster and the Countess Marie

Munster returned to the German Embassy, Carlton-house-terrace, on Saturday, from visiting the Earl and Countess of Jersey, at Middleton Park.
The Lord President of the Council, who

has been staying in town for some days, returned to Althorp Hall on Saturday. lordship and Countess Spencer come to town on Wednesday for good.

The funeral of the late Viscount Lurgan took place on Saturday morning at the parish church of Hove, near Brighton. Viscountess Powerscourt joined his lord-ship at Powerscourt Castle, Enniskerry, last

The funeral of Sir Richard Malins took place on Saturday at Bray Churchyard, near Maidenhead. The remains were followed from the deceased's late residence, Cannonhill, by a large number of relations and

Bray and the local clergy.
Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Naylor Leyland and Miss Leyland have left Hyde-park

friends. The coffin was covered with flowers. The burial service was read by the Vicar of

House for the South of France. Sir Watkin Wynn has decided not to pubhood of Whitchurch during the stay of the Empress of Austria in Cheshire, in hope of men and pedestrians which last February and March caused so much annoyance to the members of the hunt, and also proved so detrimental to sport, crops, and fences.

VANITY FAIRINGS.

All this anxiety about putting an end to obstruction in Parliament strikes me as being mischievous twaddle. The truth is that not too few but too many laws are passed in every Session of Parliament. What we want now is not the enactment of new Statutes, but the wholesome repeal of the greater portion of those that now exist. I have no desire at all to see any further laws passed, or any further offences created. I shall be perfectly happy if Sir Wilfrid Lawson continues to fail to make it felony to drink small beer; and the only proceeding in the Session which at all pleases me is what is called the slaughter of the innocents. I do not want another Land Law either for Ireland or England. I have no desire to see a Statute passed for the relief of the Rev. Green, and I profoundly believe that my country is already blessed with sufficient laws to keep him and my other fellow-citizens in order. What I should like to see is a Government which would occupy itself, not with desperate attempts to change the laws of the country, but with an honest endeavour to administer the country's affairs. This, however, is a kind of Government which, I am afraid, will not be found in my We are cursed by great men. I have no hesitation in saying that the great man is the

plague of the nineteenth century. We don't want great men. What we do want is a number of honest clerks who for a certain stipend will address themselves to the conduct of the business of the country. If they do this prudently and honestly they will earn their salaries. If not it is our business to get rid of them as soon as possible. But to saddle ourselves with great men who can neither be controlled nor got rid of is a piece of lunacy of which no man would be guilty in his private business. I have no respect whatever for any of our great men. I should hear with deep equanimity that Mr. Gladstone had found a permanent home in a lunatic asylum, or that Sir Stafford Northcote had taken to breeding shorthorns. But I do believe that it is of very great importance to have a set of men trained in public affairs to carry on the business of the country. And there are any number of men who are ready to carry on this business without being made great or requiring their utterances to be dished up daily in the columns of the newspapers. In this matter the United States Constitution is far better than ours. It precludes the Ministers from holding seats in the House of Representatives, and thereby relieves them from the necessity of making exhibitions of themselves in talk and examples of themselves in faction. The unsexed women who constitute that surprising body, the Ladies' Land League, have given a great deal of trouble, and are likely to give still more. The Government seems quite puzzled as to the best way of dealing with these active and intelligent females. I give Mr. Forster a hint. Some years ago a certain officer was in command of detachment of troops on board ship. Among the passengers was a soldier's wife who had assaulted her husband, and, in a fit of fury, thrown several articles of his kit overboard. She was a regular termagant, and the gallant officer was puzzled as to how to deal with her. Putting however a bold face on the matter, he solemnly warned her that if she did not behave herself he would place her in confinement and have her hair cut off. Her heart sank within her, and she gave no more trouble during the voyage. Can we figure Miss Parnell or—horror!—Miss Taylor with an orthodox crop? Mr. Forster should con-The son of an eminent Irish Judge has just

enlisted in a crack Light Cavalry regiment. If he has taken this step from a noble ambition to win a commission, I honour him; if he has simply been wilful and impatient of parental restraint, I congratulate him. Life in a barrack-room will soon teach him com-

I hear of two rather curious incidents in connection with the Italian census which was taken the other day. The paper sent to the Quirinal was filled up as follows:—"Hum-

Domicile: Rome." The Pope made som little difficulty about letting a census paper be sent to the Vatican, but he finally consented to fill it up himself, giving as his "profession," "Pope;" and as "his means of live-lihood," "the offerings of the faithful."

Any frivolous person who feels that his mind needs improving should visit one or two of the institutions called industrial schools. The amusement to be got is not great, but useful knowledge may be picked up. I went to one gruesome place the other day. An unhappy man is required to train and teach some hundreds of lads in a building which the rats of a respectable warehouse would consider uncomfortable. An air of squalor and chilliness seems to hang in the dark rooms and dismal staircases like an impalpable fog. The dormitories are floored with asphalte in one wing of the building, and I should think that getting into bed must be a shivery performance. The little roughs look merry enough, and eat huge quantities of rather coarse food with great apparent relish. Nevertheless, if I were a youthful offender, and had learned to associate the dismal abode with virtue, I should devote my manhood and old age to a consistent pur-

Mrs. Percy Mitford has started a movement to wear English silks instead of French. She points out that in some kinds of silk manufactures we are not inferior, but much superior, to the French, and she claims that English ladies should give their own country-men's wares a fair trial. I wish Mrs. Mit-ford every success; but as long as English ladies are content to put themselves blindly into the hands of French dressmakers, French, or so-called French, fabrics will always have an advantage. What we want are English fashions. English fabrics would soon follow. It is astonishing how few human links serve to connect the present with the remote past. The following is an interesting illustration of the truth:—A, a lady who died in 1873 aged eighty-three, was told by her grandfather B, who died in 1802 at the age of eighty, that his grandfather C, who died in 1718 aged seventy-one, used to say that his grandfather D, who died in 1637 aged eventy-five, had seen Shakespeare under the following circumstances :- D, a young Devonshire squire, on one occasion during the reign of Elizabeth, rode up to London—a long and adventurous journey in those days—and, going to the Globe Theatre, left his horse in charge of a youth who was a hanger-on of the establishment. This youth was William Shakespeare. A, we know, received this tradition directly from B, A being at the time of the latter's death twelve years old. Between B and C there must have been an interme-diate link in the person of B's father; pro-bably C was only born in the year in which his grandfather D died. Between C and D therefore there must have been another link. The total number of links therefore between the old lady who died some years ago and the Devonshire squire whose horse was held by Shakespeare was only four .- Vanity Fair.

The Carl Rosa Opera season at Her Ma-jesty's Theatre has thus far proved highly successful, and on almost during the past week the house has been crowded to overflowing. The operas added to the repertory were :- The Flying Dutchman (Wagner), Maritana (Wallace), Mignon (Ambroise Thomas), and The Bohemian Girl (Balfe). In the first-named work, Mr. Ludwig as Vanderdecken and Mme. Valleria as Senta achieved great successes, the other characters being filled by Miss Yorke, MM. Turner, Packard, and D'Egville. The choruses were well sung, the mise-en-scèneespecially the sea-side scene-attracted general admiration, and the work was so completely successful that its frequent repetition would be politic. In Maritana Miss Burns, Mr. J. W. Turner, MM. Crotty and Snazelle repeated familiar impersonations, and a cre-ditable debut was made by Mile. Lilian La Rue, a youthful mezzo-soprano, with a light and agreeable voice, at present imperfectly cultivated. Her acting as Lazarillo showed much promise.

Mr. Barton McGuckin, the well-known and popular concert singer, made a successful debut on Friday last as Wilhelm Meister, the pitiful hero of Mignon. Although evidently pervous, he sang with taste and true expression, and delivered the romance, "Farewell Mignon!" so admirably that an encore was unanimously demanded. As an actor Mr. McGuckin has already made considerable progress during a long provincial tour, and the accession of so excellent an artist adds greatly to the strength of the Carl Rosa company. Miss Gaylord, as Mignon, acted admirably, but her voice was not equal to all demands, and it was only in two or three of her higher notes that she was able to sing with effect. It is evident that she needs a long interval of repose. Miss La Rue was an acceptable Frederick, and Miss Burns, as Filina, won the chief honours of the occasion. Mr. Charles Lyall, as Laertes, kept the sudience in constant hilarity by his irresistibly comic acting and singing. Mr. Crotty undertook the part of Lothario with but moderate success.

Saturday night's performance of The Box

hemian Girl was prejudiced by the fog, which filled every part of the theatre, and evidently inconvenienced some of the singers. Miss Burns, as Arline, won abundant applause. Miss Giulia Warwick, as the Gipsy Queen, struggled bravely with the difficulties of a rôle unsuited to her pleasant soprano voice. Mr. Turner (Thaddous), Mr. Snazelle (Devilshoof), Mr. Crotty (Count Arnheim) exerted themselves zealously and ably, and the performance, skilfully directed by Mr. John Pew, appeared to give much delight to the crowded audience. Mme. Alwina Valleria's debut as Senta was brilliantly successful. Both her singing and acting were full of dramatic expression, and elicited enthusiastic applause. She is likely to be the chief attraction of the season.

Her Majesty the Queen has subscribed for four stalls for the ensuing concerts of the Philharmonic Society; a mark of the Royal favour conferred last year for the first time, and reserved for the Philharmonic Society alone. At a special general meeting of the society held on Saturday night, Signor Verdi, Herr Johannes Brahms, and Herr Joachim Raff were elected honorary members.

Mr. Ernest Crooke, a talented violinist, and a pupil of the National Training School for Music, gave a violin recital at the Royal Academy concert room last week. Berlioz's "Symphonie Fantastique

ecently performed under Mr. Manns for the first time in Glasgow, and was received with extraordinary enthusiasm by an audience of 3,000 persons. The concert was one of the cheap popular series.

THE DRAMA.

HAYMARKET THEATRE. disappointing it would have been well that School and Ours and Caste should be revived once more by Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft before their acting rights in Robertson's pieces expire by lapse of time. But though there is something to regret in the representation as it is given under changed conditions there is also much to enjoy, so that Ours honestly deserves the hearty welcome which it obtains at the Haymarket for auld lang syne. It is, no doubt, true that the impression produced by the piece as a work of art is distinctly less favourable than it was in days gone by. The sketchiness and triviality of the first act and the dangerous incongruities of the last strike us as they never did before, and yet we most of us find it difficult to explain pre-cisely why they should. Perhaps it is some

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M Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 23 -24, 1882.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH CONTROL OF EGYPT. We feel that there are few indeed who are not now prepared to recognize the force and justice of the criticisms we originally passed upon the policy that ended in the establishment of the Anglo-French Control in Egypt. We questioned the expediency of the measures adopted and the urgency of the motives avowed. The deposition of Ismail Pacha, the elevation of Tewfik to the sovereignty, and the appeal to the shadowy authority of the Sultan, were dictated, not so much by alarm at the adventures of the Egyptian Government in Equatorial Africa, or by sympathy for the sufferings of the oppressed fellaheen, as by financial interests brought into peril by the late Khedive's extravagance and dishonesty. It appeared to us that the true political interests of England in Egypt would have been better secured by an independent course. Nor have we looked with more satisfaction, as our readers are aware, on some of the more recent developments of the policy of the Anglo-French intervention. But we have to do with a state of things founded upon the intervention and inseparable from it. The Control was established by England and France with the assent of all the other European Powers. Not only was no protest made at the time Germany-whence the National party in Egypt are now expecting vaguely to obtain sympathy and, perhaps, succour but the initiative on which the two Western Powers acted was supplied by Prince Bismarck. In fact, if not in form, England and France acted in Egypt as the delegates of the European concert, and, having accepted that mission and undertaken serious responsibilities in consequence, they cannot surrender their rights or give way to anarchical disturbances and unworthy intrigues. The European Powers have acquiesced in what has been accomplished in Egypt by the Anglo-French Centrol, and it must be admitted, even by those who censured the policy in which that system originated, that a large measure of practical success has been achieved. The finances of Egypt have been once more

put upon a basis of solvency and regularity,

the peasant-cultivators have been im-

mensely lightened. As all the European

Governments were substantially responsible

while at the same time the burdens upon

for the establishment of the Control, so. too, both parties in this country have had their share in upholding it. The question, therefore, is one which it ought to be possible to discuss, both at home and abroad, in a spirit of sobriety and with complete freedom from bias. It is true, indeed, that while insisting on the necessity for firmness in our Egyptian policy we must acknowledge that the claims of the National party in Egypt, so far as they are not factitious. deserve much sympathy. One of the principal objections to the Anglo-French intervention was that it shattered whatever native elements of strength existed in Egypt. Ismail Pacha was a bad ruler, but his successor has scarcely been from the beginning a ruler at all. Sir William Gregory has lately pleaded the cause of the Egyptian National party and their Beader, Arabi Bey, with much literary power and dialectical skill, and we are by no means disposed to reject his conclusions, regarded in the abstract. If it were possible to go back to the situation with which we had to deal in Egypt before Ismail Pacha's Government broke down hopelessly, there would be much difficulty in peremptorily rejecting the pretensions of the National party. It is probable that if the trial had been made the elements of a vigorous and healthy self-government would have been found altogether wanting. But, at any rate, the experiment was not tried, and the Anglo-French Control, which has bestowed upon Egypt great practical benefits, cannot be set aside in favour of the problematical advantages to be evolved out of the chaos that would now be produced by giving the rein rashly to ungoverned and, perhaps, un-real national aspirations. If the nascent spirit of nationality in Egypt had taken root in a strong and settled native Government, we might regard the movement at present agitating Egypt with more sanguine hopes. But, supposing the Anglo-French Control to be overthrown, what is to follow? What promise of stalbility is there in the Khedive's Government if left to its own devices? What witality is there in the Council of Notables? Where is the National party, outside the army? Is there, in truth, an Egypt which is capable of political representation and of healthy progress under a system of self- government? These are questions to which we find no satisfactory answers in Sir W. Wiam Gregory's pleading. It appears to us that the Council of Notableswith goo d intentions, doubtless, are actuated by feelings which, even when unreasonable, are natural enough-possesses no represe ntative character and no tangible relation to the toiling Egyptian masses. The populace of the towns, vehement in t. umultuous protest against foreign influence", has still less title to be

called national. The Khedive and his

Ministers are ha rdly the men to stand

alone. There is on ly one really important

factor in the p. oblem, and that is subscribers to a paper are for the most part the army. No do wht Arabi Bey and composed of those whose politics it advo-

enough, without other backing, to try the experiment of an independent Egypt ruled as the Mamelukes ruled it, with the force of military oligarchy. But such a dominion would not be national in any true sense; it would be undermined by its inherent vices, and it would not be able to cope with the jealousies and ambitions to which it would be exposed. It is proper to pay every attention to the representations of the Nobles and to bear in mind that the aims of the National party, though they may be impracticable, are worthy of respect. We have no doubt that the English and French Governments will do all that may be possible to remove any cause of complaint and to promote the gradual and steady development of a state of things in which it may be practicable to hand over to the people of Egypt a large part of the control now administered by Europeans. But to this end the co-operation of the Egyptians themselves is needed. Nothing can more seriously impede progress in the direction of Egyptian self-government than the recurrence of panics and tumults, appeals to violence and fanaticism, the menace of military force, and the reliance upon the secret working of international animosities and grudges. These disturbing movements tend only to anarchy, and into anarchy this country cannot, in any circumstances whatever, allow Egypt to fall.—Times.

FRENCH SPECULATION IN ITALIAN

NEWSPAPERS. The many and serious questions which have been agitating Italian political circles of late have sunk into insignificance in comparison with the strange news that six of the leading Italian Newspapers have been purchased en bloc by France. The wildest speculations are, of course, indulged in as to the nature and objects of the transaction, but it seems to be admitted on all hands that the Diritto, the Fanfulla, the Libertà, the Bersaglière, and the Italia of Rome, together with the Pungolo of Milan, have been transferred to the Banque Romaine of Paris, by a wellknown banker and newspaper agent and proprietor for the sum of two million eight hundred thousand francs, or one hundred and twelve thousand pounds sterling. The account of the affair which gains most general credence is that about a week ago it was telegraphed to Paris that agents of M. Gambetta were in Rome negotiating for the purchase of one or more newspapers, to be employed in counteracting the feeling of distrust against France which has been recently growing up in Italy. The communication added that a condition of the sale was to be that the newspapers thus bought should for the future support the views and policy of the purchasers. Signor Obleight, the banker and Newspaper proprietor above referred to, at once wrote to the Roman evening Journals disclaiming any desire to control the policy of the Press, and explained the affair by saying that he had simply converted his own large Newspaper agency into a limited liability Company, with a capital of three million francs, divided into five hundred franc shares. This apology or explanation was not very readily accepted, and the retort was made that, at any rate, the great News-agent had, by his own admission, given to a French Company the control of a large portion of the Press, so far as proprietary rights were concerned. The transaction may, as Signor Obleight asserts, be a purely commercial one, but the Italian public and the Italian Journalists seem to think otherwise, and accordingly all other topics of public interest are for the moment forgotten. Signor Crispi's organ, the Riforma, bitterly laments the manner in which French commercial enterprise is drawing an insidious network of material interests around Italy, and, not without reason, reminds its readers that these very interests were made the pretext of the Tunisian Expedition and the Joint Control in Egypt. It concludes the article with a prediction that France will, if such things are allowed to go on, create a Tunis or an Egypt at the foot of the Alps in order to have a pretext, when opportunity offers, for intervening in Italian affairs, in the combined interests of the Republican and Clerical parties, who, it is to be presumed, will coalesce on this occasion only, in view of the vast advantages which France will derive from the purchase of Italian newspapers. It further warns its fellow patriots that they may wake up some morning to find a Hannibal not only at the gates, but in the house. The journals which are said to have been thus recklessly traded away to the stranger have made strong protests in favour of their own independence, and declared that their editors and staff will resign to a man rather than submit to foreign dictation as to their politics. Signor Torraca, editor of the Diritto, which has always supported the Left, and is one of the organs of the present Ministry, has published a manifesto on the subject, in which he declares that duty imposes upon him and his colleagues, 'not to abandon the flag for which they have fought, and to which they are devoted. The principles of the press are public patrimony, which is not to be sold or bartered. For our own part," he continues, "we shall stand on our guard over this patrimony. We may be removed, but we will never surrender." Both his patriotism and his resolve were soon put to the test, for, according to a telegram, he has already resigned his post on the Diritto, and established a rival paper called the Rassegna, taking his entire staff with him. This certainly looks as though there were some truth in the original reports, that the purchase was made with a political motive, and that the purchasers, in the case of the Diritto at least, acted with undue precipitation, and showed their hand too soon. The Fanfulla declares that the conversion cannot affect its policy, as Signor Oblieght already owns seventwelfths of the paper; but it may, like the Diritto, have to reckon with the eminent News-agent's French partners. If the object of the transaction be really a political one, its certain failure may be predicted, for no contract between the proprietors of these Papers and a foreign Company can

either bind the Editors and staff to remain

and advocate principles to which they

are opposed, or prevent them from

following the example of the Editor

of the Diritto and setting up a rival

journal. As a commercial speculation the

purchase is a still more doubtful adven-

ture, for it is to be presumed that the

devious, even when they are not further complicated by the mysteries of the great Bull and Bear fight of the Bourse. One thing is certain, and that is that the Italian mind is much exercised about the affair, and that there seems no disposition whatever on the part of Italian journalists to barter their freedom of thought and speech either at the bidding of speculators or foreign politicians. We hope that it would be, in any case, impossible to purchase an Italian newspaper in the interests of foreign politicians; but however that may be, the enterprising French Company who have bought up the six leading Italian papers have clearly not gone the right way to work to secure that object .-Standard.

M. GAMBETTA'S ABERRATIONS. The position of affairs in France has at

resent a more than common interest for

Englishmen. At no time since the Crimean war has English policy been so interwoven with French policy as it is now. We are carrying out a joint protectorate and negotiating a commercial treaty. More than this, we have so managed matters that the smooth working of these arrangements seems to depend on the continuance in power of a particular Minister. We have not only put our eggs in one basket as regards Europe—France being at this moment the only Power whom, except by courtesy, we can call friendly-but we have put them all in one basket as regards France herself. The friendship of France, such as it is, seems to be identified with M. Gambetta. If he remains Prime Minister we shall retain it; if he is beaten, among the first fruits of his defeat will probably be the adoption of a protectionist policy in fiscal matters, and possibly of a more irritating if not a more active policy in Egyptian matters. Englishmen, therefore. cannot but watch with something like personal concern the method in which M. Gambetta carries on his struggle with the Chamber of Deputies. What meets their eyes, at all events, is not reassuring as to M. Gambetta's chances. In his interview with the Committee of Thirty-three on Saturday he seems to have gone out of his way to irritate the Extreme Left, and in doing this to have taken a line which was equally well calculated to offend Moderate Republicans. The only sections of opinion who could have been genuinely pleased by his remarks are the Bonapartists and the Legitimists: the Bonapartists because the Prime Minister showed himself not indisposed to what may at the least be colourably described a coup d'Etat; the Legitimists because M. Gambetta does but exemplify their favourite thesis that a French Republic must always end in Cæsarism. In saying what he did M. Gambetta was doubly illadvised. It is always a mistake to talk of a coup d'Etat beforehand, but it is still more so when it is certain that the Minister who talks of it would not have the power to carry it out. The point pressed on M. Gambetta was: -Supposing the National Assembly to disregard the vote of the two Chambers defining the questions upon which it is to deliberate, how can this be prevented? M. Gambetta answered that such action on the part of the Congress would be illegal and that the President of the Republic would consider how to deal with it. There does not seem to be anything in the Constitution to bear out M. Gambetta's view; and unless he could give M. Grévy chapter and verse for what he asked him to do. we may be sure that M. Grévy would refuse. The President has bided his time very patiently, even when it seemed almost hopeless that it would ever come; but he would then have the finest opportunity that he could desire. M. Gambetta would have proposed to a Constitutional Chief of the State to disperse a National Assembly embracing all the members of both Chambers convoked to revise the Constitution: could there be a more odious light in which to present an Advanced Republican Minister to the nation? M. Grévy would only have to announce that, as M Gambetta had proposed to him to violate his obligations under the Constitution by dispersing the National Assembly he had thought it is duty to dismiss him, to make sure for the time of the support of the whole country. M. Gambetta, therefore, has been guilty of the twofold error of uttering a threat which he could not carry out if he wished, and which he could not even hint at without giving the gravest and most lasting cause of offence to the majority of the Deputies. His prospects, consequently, seem to be very much worse than they were down to Saturday. He has given the Chamber real cause to doubt his fitness for office. Each of his dealings with this question of revision has been more imprudent than the last. He has proposed unnecessary changes in the Constitution by way of excuse for foisting scrutin de liste into the organic laws; he has made his continuance in office dependent on his success in bullying the Chamber of Deputies into accepting the Government proposal; and now, when he sees that the National Assembly may slip through his fingers, he intimates that if it goes beyond the line marked for it will be dealt with as a revolutionary body. So strange a series of imprudences, and worse than imprudences, has seldom been seen. -St. James's Gazette.

THE RISING IN DALMATIA.

The Vienna correspondent of the Daily News telegraphed on Monday night: The fact is becoming obvious that Austria will not merely have to battle against single bands of insurgents, but that the insurrection is well organized and directed from a central point. President Tisza has sent a circular to all the paper Pesth appealing to their patriotism to publish no more details upon the movements of the troops in Dalmatia and the occupied provinces, as the publication of these details might render the military dispositions of no avail.

On the 20th large bands of insurgents appeared in the Dubrava. 150 insurgents orced the gendarmes of Glavaticevo to withdraw to Konjica. More insurgents are advancing towards Konjica. 1,000 insurgents have assembled above Kameno, near Vratlo The general commanding in Serajevo reports that 500 insurgents armed with Snider rifles, and several hundred armed with hatchets have assembled in the Zagorje, com-manded by Serdar Tungus. Other bands are terrorising the surrounding districts. On the 17th the gendarmes of Kalinovics were attacked by 150 insurgents. Three companies his fellow-goldiers would be bold cates, and when it adopts diametrically sent to their aid from Fotscha found Vratle

opposite opinions, it is only reasonable to suppose that they will cease to take it in. It is difficult, therefore, to see what end can be served by the purchase, though the ways of political understrappers are always devious, even when they are not further round Ulok, and found a line of sentinels extending for 3,000 paces. After an hour's conflict the battalion returned to Nevesinje. Travellers arriving from South Dalmatia re-port that the gendarmery garrison in Stolac was set fire to. Nine persons perished in the flames. The same day several persons quarrelled with the landlord of a tavern and killed him, although his wife offered them 4,000 florins to spare his life.

The Crisvoscian insurgents are circulating all over the country a revolutionary procla-mation. It is written in Servian, with cyrillic The contents are of such a character that they cannot be reproduced in The Lloyd Company has received orders to

have ships ready to transport two infantry regiments and four Jaeger battalions. The reserves of several regiments in Prague, Temesvar, Znaim, and Vienna have received orders to march south. The English squadron in the Mediterranean is concentrating at Malta.

We learn from Ragusa that, last Thursday, Prince Nicholas of Montenegro received a Herzegovinian deputation in Danjlowgrad asking for support from Montenegro. The Austro-Hungarian Minister-resident was present. The Prince answered that they must not calculate upon his support, and ordered them to return home immediately, otherwise he would intern them all. In Podgoritza fifteen Albanians and seven Bulgarians, a priest among the number, have been arrested and sent to Constantinople. They took part in the last riots in Macedonia, instigated by the Pansclavist committee in Sophia. In four Communes of the Petrovaz district recruits from Christian families have been enlisted without difficulty. They promised to serve the Emperor faithfully, and hoped that the agrarian question would soon be satisfactorily settled. The Mohammedans announced their intention of emigrating; but they will probably do nothing of the kind. They declare that conscience forbids them to serve any other than the Sultan. News reaches us that the Sultan is giving land to the Bosnian emi-

THE EGYPTIAN DIFFICULTY.

The Standard correspondent at Cairo telegraphed on Monday night :-Though I cannot say that the situation has as yet materially improved, it seems to me that there are various indications pointing in the direction of a not unfriendly settlement of the main points in dispute. I have had the opportunity of discussing with many influential men here, of all shades of opinion, the various aspects of the crisis, and they concur in thinking that unless something very unexpected occurs a compromise ought to be, and will be, effected. One fact is certain-that Cherif Pacha is anxious to arrange a compromise with the Chamber of Deputies ith reference to the demand to vote the Budget. The proposal of Cherif is to the effect that the Chamber shall nominate a number of Deputies corresponding in number to the members of the Government and the Controllers General, and that they shall participate in fixing the Budget items. Whether this partial proposal will be accepted or not is at present uncertain. seems to me more important is that the general political tone has been considerably lower in he last forty-eight hours, and that many high-flown pretensions are no longer pressed In a state of things where a single rash act or foolish speech might provoke not merely an emeute but a revolution, it would be unwise to assume a too confident tone. Nor is it easy to explain in so many words in what particular respects the situation may be said to have improved. But my impression distinctly is that, in the absence of the unexpected, the worst of the crisis is over, and that what remains to be dealt with ought not to be beyond the reach of a clever and conciliatory diplomatist.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, MONDAY.

The Queen went out this morning with Princess Beatrice. The Hon. and Rev. Francis Byng had the honour of dining with her Majesty yesterday.

The Prince of Wales and a distinguished party arrived on Monday afternoon at Brantingham Thorpe, the seat of Mr. Sykes, M.P. for a week's shooting and hunting. Amongst the party invited to meet the Prince are the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Londesborough, the Marquis of Abergavenny, the Earl of Aylesford, Lord Ormathwaite, Lord Herries, and Sir G. O. Wombwell.

The Duke of Edinburgh, who arrived at Kirkwall on Sunday night, landed on Monday morning for the purpose of inspecting the coastguard and receiving the freedom of the burgh. The streets of the town were crowded His Royal Highness received a most hearty welcome. After inspecting the coastguard his Royal Highness was driven to the County Buildings, where the freedom of the burgh was conferred by Provost Reid, who, in the course of his speech, referred to the former visit made by the Prince Consort 18 years ago. The illustrious freeman briefly replied, thanking the Provost and magistrates for the honour conferred upon him. Enthusiastic cheers were given for the Queen, the Roya! Family, and the Duchess of Edinburgh by those present, the hall being crowded. The Duke of Westminster left Grosvenor

House on Monday for Eaton Hall. The Earl and Countess of Rosslyn have arrived in Carlton-gardens from Easton Lodge, Dunmow, for the season. Sir Watkin Wynn contradicts the report to the effect that he did not intend to notify

the days on which his hounds would meet during the stay of the Empress of Austria at Combermere Abbey.

The combined Leicestershire Hunt Ball is

to take place at the County Assembly Rooms at Leicester on February 9, under the patronage of the Duke of Rutland, Earl Ferrers, and the masters of the other five packs hunting within the county, viz.:—The A'herstone, Billesden, Cottesmore, Pytchley, and Quorn. The gathering is expected to be most brilliant, as upwards of 80 of the principal hunting men have consented to act as stew

The King of Italy has conferred the order of Commander of the Royal Order of the Crown of Italy upon Mr. R. Richardson-Gardner. The Milan Perseveranza, in announcing this, says: - "His Majesty the King, on the proposal of the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Signor Mancini), has con-ferred the title of Commander of the Crown of Italy on Mr. Richardson-Gardner, member of the English Parliament. This distinction has been conferred upon him as a token of gratitude for the interest and care taken by him in behalf of the members of the Milan Blind Institution during the visit that those unfortunate creatures paid to London."

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.") The Prime Minister has been asked to receive an influential deputation on the subject of the opium trade as soon after the meet-ing of Parliament as will be convenient to himself. Mr. Alderman McArthur (the late Lord Mayor), who, with Lord Shaftesbury, was requested by the Mansion House meeting to arrange for the proposed interview, is now at Nice, on his way back to England. Captain Knapp Barrow, C.M.G., who

reaches the enormous sum of £4,121,546, to which, as Mr. Howe observes, there are to be added the incomes of numerous institutions which do not make returns and the amount distributed in relief by church and chapel congregations. Over and above this the Earl of Shaftesbury has estimated that the amount received by fraudulent charities reaches at least a quarter of a million sterling annually. This latter fact is the more deplorable since the recent diminution in the income of bona fide charities seems to have fallen heavily upon some excellent institutions. The classes most affected have been, it appears, the medical charities the general relief charities, the charities for orphans, and those for reformation and protection-these institutions being more than others dependent on voluntary contributions.

The Karaites—the Jewish sect which re-ounces the Talmud and other Jewish legends -having come into prominence in connection with the Jewish outrages in Russia some information as to their numbers may be interesting. Dr. Adler, the Chief Rabbi, states that there are not more than three thousand of them in Russia. We learn on the authority of a'recent traveller who is well acquainted with the Karaites, that they number at least ten thousand persons. It has been said that they are to be found only in the Crimea. Many, however, reside at Moscow, although it appears that they are not to be met with at St. Petersburg.

ENGLISH LANDSCAPE PAINTING. A glory seems to have faded from the do-

main of British art with the loss of John Linnell. Landscape painting has been an especial possession of these islands since they reared an art school of their own. Gainsborough, Constable, Bonington, Callcott, Crome, Turner, and Linnell make a company of which any country might be proud. The Academy has not always valued landscape painting as it ought. It does not value it adequately now. John Linnell should not have been permitted to remain outside its pale. Early appreciation might have induced him to court a dignity which later he did not need and is supposed to have declined. Landscape painters, though not to be classed with him, as genuine in their aspirations labour still; and the Academy appears to have no eyes for their merits. Elsewhere they are more highly esteemed than by the titular chiefs of their common profession. No form of art charms more irresistibly. From none does an Englishman experience a fuller satisfaction of emotions and thoughts which cannot otherwise be fitly represented. Either the deserts of other branches of English art must be more extraordinarily exalted than might be inferred from the annual evidence in Piccadilly, or the scanty proportion of names among the Academicians and Associates associated with the representation of natural scenery is a strange injustice to one department of painting, and contempt of one marked national taste. Landscape painters in these later times may, perhaps, have contributed to their own relegation to a secondary place in professional rank. They witness daily excursions into their particular province by the painters of history or domestic life. They seldom think of retaliating, as the Gainsboroughs and Turners retaliated of old, by rolling the tide of invasion back. There is an absorption in the contemplation of nature so profound as to indispose the mind for anything else. The intermixture of an element of human passion or action appears in such a mood an intrusion and a discord. When the elevation of the work accords with such a disinclination, reluctance to tamper with the jealous monopoly of artistic thought by natural beauty must be pardoned and respected. But, for landscape painters below the highest, art cannot safely be thus confined to a single order of subjects. A painter who insists upon looking at a landcape as necessarily nothing besides, and not as a stage on which passages from the grand drama of humanity may be played, is very apt to conclude that he has created a picture when he has only executed a coloured photograph. That was what John Linnell never did, and never cou'd have done. He had served an apprenticeship to the delineation of the characters of men before he devoted himself to a kind of landscape painting analogous to songs without words. His scenery is never desert, though the human agents may be subordinate and obscure. His landscapes are the framework of a human story, though the ostensible figures in the sunny foreground may compel the attention as little as a group in a faded piece by one of the Poussins. A direct link with human life was never wanting to a work by him. Landscapes by the younger generation are too often vacant of humanity without the presence of the spirit of nature to connect and impersonate the scene. If landscape painters desire to force a recognition of equaity with their historical brethren, they would do well to challenge them, more than has been recently the custom, on their own ground. John Linnell has shown on a nundred eloquent canvases that a landscape need not be less natural that it is human also. If, working after his fashion, landscape painters like him do not then have their proper share in the honours of the Academy, it will be, not that they cannot, but that, like him,

THE PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS IN RUSSIA

they will not .- Times.

The Lord Mayor has decided to convene a public meeting at the Mansion House in order to give expression to public feeling respecting the persecution which the Jews of Russia have for some time past been suffering. The memorial presented to the Lord Mayor on the subject is signed by persons representing every shade of religious and political opinion. Among them are the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London, Gloucester and Bristol, and Manchester, Lord Shaftesbury, Mr. Samuel Morley, Cardinal Manning, Mr. I. Richard, Professor Tyndall, Mr. Matthew Arnold, and Mr. Darwin.

A large public meeting of Jews was held in

Birmingham on Sunday, which has the largest Hebrew population in the provinces. The demonstration was held under the auspices of the Birmingham Hebrew congregation, whose Resolutions president occupied the chair. were enthusiastically carried calling upon every Jewish community throughout the world to draw up petitions to the Czar praying him to grant protection, freedom, and the right of citizenship to his Jewish subjects, the petitions to be presented by a deputation formed of the leading Hebrews in Europe and America. It was also resolved to organize large public meetings in the metropolis and in all the great cities at home and abroad. An appeal to Mr. Gladstone and the British Government for assistance was further decided upon, and a committee was appointed to enlist the support of the Mayor, and to make arrangement for a town's meeting.

The Rev. Newman Hall, preaching at Christ Church, Lambeth, on Sunday, said that should it be proved that the Russian Government had encouraged the atrocities, or been culpably negligent, Christian congregations who had denounced outrages by Mahommedans would still more emphatically denounce outrages by so-called Christians. As home politics did not prompt the former protest, neither brought home the gold axe from the King of Ashantee, is about to return to the Gold nation now. would they prevent the expression of indig-

ARREST OF A BANK DIRECTOR .- Some extement was caused in Manchester on Monday when it became known that Mr. J. Nicol Fleming, the City of Glasgow Bank director, had been arrested in the neighbourhood of the city. It appears that on Friday last the Manchester police received a telegram from the Glasgow authorities requesting that re-newed inquiries might be made for Mr. Fleming. In consequence of the telegram Detec-tive-serjeant Caminada was directed to make careful inquiry into the matter, and, after alnost continuous watching night and day, the officer on Monday saw Fleming walking in the grounds of a relative about eleven o'clock in the forenoon. Caminada immediately arrested him, and drove off with him to the Town Hall in a cab. The Glasgow police were at once communicated with by telegraph, and a reply was received during the course of the day to the effect that an officer would be sent off by the authorities there, and would probably arrive in Manchester during the night. On the arrival of the Glasgow detective Fleming would be handed over to his custody. It is understood that the arrest has been made under the old warrant, issued in 1878, soon after the discovery of the reckless dealings which culminated in the collapse of the bank. Fleming was a director of the bank for a period of years which ended in July, 1875. He had been involved in gigantic commercial operations of a specu-lative character, and, as was revealed in the Bankruptcy Court, he was insolvent as far back as 1871. At that time he owed the Bank about £84,000, but notwithstanding his position he continued to receive advances until, at the date of the stoppage of the Bank, his indebtedness amounted to over a million sterling. When the warrants were issued for the arrest of the Directors and ex-Director Fleming, the latter absconded, and it was supposed took refuge in Spain. He also visited America, and returned to England some months ago. He was examined in bankruptcy in London in November last, and on the 29th of December Mr. Sheriff Murray, in the Glasgow Bankruptcy Court, granted his discharge, which will not, however, take effect for fifteen months. At the same time the learned Sheriff severely condemned Fleming's conduct in failing to appear for examination in 1879, which he considered a gross contempt of court. Fleming's estate produced fifteen pence in the pound. The Prisoner will be tried either at the Glasgow Circuit Court or at the High Court of Justiciary in Edinburgh.

REMISSION OF SENTENCE.—The East Sussex News says that at the recent quarter sessions at Lewes, a labourer named Davage was convicted on his own confession of stealing a waterproof cloak at Crawley, on the 17th December. One of the metropolitan detectives gave evidence against the prisoner, whom he positively alleged had been convicted on several previous occasions and committed to various terms of imprisonment. The prisoner denied most emphatically all the different allegations, but the officer assured the Court he had known the prisoner from a boy, and was present when he was convicted on the other charges. The Court, regarding the prisoner as an incorrigible rogue, decided to send him to penal servitude for five years. Since the trial, however, representations have been made to the authorities showing the evidence of the detective to be unfounded, and after due inquiry the Home Secretary has acted upon the advice of the magistrates, and remitted the sentence to six months' hard labour.

THE DYNAMITE ROBBERY IN IRELAND .- A telegram from Limerick states that the police are in possession of information respecting the dynamite robbery which will lead them to effect arrests, and that some startling information may be hourly expected. The police are scouring the country in search of the dynamite.

MR. BRIGHT ON WELSH AGRICULTURE.-Replying to a communication detailing certain grievances from which farmers in Wales are epresented to suffer, Mr. Bright writes :-"I cannot undertake now to discuss with you the subject of Welsh agriculture, and the position and demands of Welsh farmers. I must leave your people to consider their own question and to come to something like a conclusion. upon it. That there are changes which require to be made and will come, I do not doubt, but I am not sure that after being so long asleep the farmers will, on suddenly awaking, be able to measure accurately what they seem to see, or judge wisely of remedies for grievances under which they believe themselves to suffer. At this moment, too, I am so burdened with correspondence and engagements that I must shun all invitations to enter upon new questions. I may, however, con-clude by saying that I am glad to see tha farmers in all parts of the kingdom are stirring themselves, and I hope this unrest may be useful to themselves and to their landlords.'

A HAUNTED MAN. - Strange Story. - A singular-looking man, who stated that his name was Hans Andersen, appeared at the Thames Police-court, on Saturday, for the purpose, as he said, of seeing if the magistrate could find him some work to do. Andersen had previously come on Wednesday afternoon to make a similar application, and he then told an extraordinary story. He stated that he was a Dane, but that he had never visited his country since the year 1848, when he was driven into exile in consequence of his having got mixed up with some secret political society. Since then he had visited nearly every civilised country in the world, and had taken part in various great movements. He knew Kossuth and had fought under Garibaldi, and had been acquainted with and trusted by other leaders of men. The Emperor Nicholas of Russia knew him and feared him, for just before the commencement of the Crimean War he had had him seized while passing through his dominions. He was about to be transported to Siberia, when he managed to escape by bribing his guards, and after some extraordinary adventures he got across the frontier, and on board a vessel bound for England. He stayed in England for a time, and then went to America, where he arrived just as the seeds of civil war were ripening. When the strife began he joined Secessionists, under General Beauregard. When the war was over, not caring to stay in the States any longer, he went through Italy, Spain, and Germany, and was initiated and made a member of the brotherhood of several secret societies in each of those countries. The consequence was that he became a marked man, and the Governments of the countries he had named had all conspired to hunt him down. Their emissaries were constantly upon his track trying to seize him and throw him either into a prison or an asylum. In addition to this he was haunted by his old comrades who had died long ago, night and day. Some of them were constantly with him whispering in his ears or beckoning to him with their fingers, as if asking him to join them. He had tried all he could to get away from them, but ashore or affoat their white faces were always by his side. There were so many of them lately, that no one would engage him. He wanted to get on board ship and pay another visit to China and Australia, but he could not, as the people who were with him prevented him, and he therefore wanted some one to go down to the shipfore wanted some one to go down to the ship-ping office with him and keep them away whilst he signed articles. The poor fellow was informed by one of the officers as he was told previously by Mr. Saunders that there was no necessity for any one to go down with him to the office, as he would not be inter-fered with if he went straight about his busi-ness.—Anderson left the building declarate ness.—Andersen left the huilding, declaring that he supposed he should have to knock some of their brains out, and then they would leave him alone.

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LONDON, JANUARY 24 -25, 1882.

ABSOLUTISM IN PRUSSIA. If any doubt ever existed regarding the meaning of the now famous Imperial Rescript, it must have been dispelled by the speech of Prince Bismarck in the German Parliament on Tuesday. The statement is not the less striking because it is dramatically characteristic of the man who makes it. The German Chancellor scorns any attempt at apology for the document which three weeks ago sent a shock of surprise not only throughout the Fatherland but throughout Europe. He vindicates its terms; he justifies its opportuneness; he even exults in its necessity. He begs the Deputies to dismiss from their minds any theoretical ideas regarding the nature of the German Imperial Constitution, or of the place which the Chancellor holds in it. The Chapcellor is the nominee of the Emperor; he was present in the Reichstag on Tuesday simply as the Royal Prussian Representative, or, as he styles himself, the Plenipotentiary of his Royal master. Having thus defined his own position, Prince Bismarck proceeded to explain the object of the Rescript. It created no new law; it only prevented the old one from being forgotten. The Constitution gave no countenance to the maxim which of late had begun to grow up, to the effect that "the King reigns but does not govern." That might be the state of the case in England and other limited Monarchies, under system of responsible Ministers virtually the creatures of Parliamentary majorities, by whose vote they came into or went out of office. In Prussia-and by Prussia Prince Bismarck evidently meant Germany -this custom has never prevailed, and so long as the Emperor reigns never will prevail. "I can only assume," he remarked, "that those learned persons who speak of the Constitutional supremacy of the House are afflicted with an obscure vision." This obscurity, he went on to point out, consists in imagining that English liberty and Prussian Absolutism are one and the same thing. The Rescript is absolutely legal. The King's will is expressed in it, and he, as the countersigner of it, is responsible for anything to which it has given expression. "I am responsible for all the acts of the Sovereign, whether I countersign them or not. The signature of the King is always the chief thing." In brief, the country is governed by the King and the two Houses of the Legislature, and the Minister is the scapegoat." That the King commands and the Minister obeys has always been a tradition in Prussia, and the legend still possesses sufficient vitality to enable the Chancellor to affirm on Tuesday that though Ministers have to make numerous concessions, the real President of the Cabinet is the King himself. There can be no mistake about the meaning of these words. They have the true Bismarckian ring, and, unpalatable though they may be to German Liberals, they are the literal expression of a plain historical truth. When Prussia first received a Constitution in 1848, the King possessed absolute power. That is not surprising seeing that Absolutism was then the rule throughout Europe. Even England more than once in the previous century witnessed the spectacle of the King dismissing his advisers simply because they chose to hold opinions contrary to his own. In our day, when the Sovereign loyally accepts any Minister whom, in the opinion of the First Lord of the Treasury, it is essential for the welfare of the kingdom to have in office, it is difficult to conceive of George IV. objecting to Canning, because, "as a gentleman, he had vowed that this statesman should never be taken into the Cabinet. Yet. constitutionally, his Majesty had a perfect right to do so. Ministers in England, however, being absolutely dependent on a Parliamentary majority, the Sovereign has long ago ceased to exercise any choice not compatible with the will of the people. In Prussia this has never been the case. The King selects whom he wills, and Parliament may or may not, as seems best in its eyes, endorse the selection. Its only check is its tenure of the purse strings But even this control, as Prince Bismarck has occasionally demoustrated, is more nominal than real. In Prussia, and more or less in all the German States, the Monarch is a weighty personality. Indeed, in 1848, very little support was given to the idea which has since grown up and partially obscured the letter of the Constitution-the idea that the King reigns but does not govern-and the theory of Government by majority was far

from being generally entertained. This in-

disputable fact Prince Bismarck begs his

hearers to call to memory. Whether such a system would work in the Prussia

of to-day may be doubted. But, all events,

the two Kings who have sat on the Throne

since the Constitution was granted have

made every concession to preserve the country from drifting in that direction.

The Chancellor goes further when he declares that had he pursued a Parlia-

mentary policy in 1864 the country would

and, he adds significantly, "all of you

gentlemen, perhaps, would not have been

here to-day." Possibly not. To its

Parliament Prussia owes little; to its

Chancellor it owes a great deal. But

a Parliament that has only the power to

'experienced a second Olmutz,"

hamper and annoy can never be an instrument for much good, and politicians who know that they will never be called on to carry out in office the principles they professed when out of it, are not likely to be wise in council or temperate in speech. The accuracy of Prince Bismarck's interpretation of the Rescript was not challenged. Herr von Bennigsen, the Leader of the National Liberals, was compelled to admit that it was "indisputably Constitutional," and the criticisms of Herren Stauffenberg and Richter seem to have been devoted, not so much to a consideration of its illegality as to its effects on the present situation. This is, however, a question which concerns Prince Bismarck more than his opponents. He may have been acting strictly within the limits of the Constitution; but it would have been discreet to have roused public opinion at a moment more opportune than the present, and in a manner less irritating. Public functionaries who are favourable to the existing state of affairs are not likely to play false to their Sovereign at the polls, while those who may be less friendly will not, if human nature is the same in Germany as in lands further west, be inclined to avail themselves of the ballot to further the purposes of a Minister who has so bluntly ordered them to attend to what he considers their duty. Its effect on the nation at large will be even more prejudicial. Liberty, as we understand it, has never been quite grasped in Germany. Then it is true, to use the words of Professor Freitzchke, the Sovereign "has always borne responsibility before God and man"-thus making a marked distinction between moral and legal responsibility-and his claims have to a certain extent been allowed by the nation. But until the issue of this Rescript the people were beginning to recognise Divine Right and Personal Government as merely shadowy attributes kept in stock, though never intended to be actually called into use. They now know differently, and the reminder has wounded their amour propre. Even the Professors of the University have addressed their students on the great question of the day, and the opinion seems to be that unless Prince Bismarck wishes to force on a desperate Constitutional struggle, with the object of abolishing the present Imperial Parliament altogether, his conduct appears to be extremely unwise. It is hardly likely that he harbours such an intention, though it is no secret that his antipathy to the Reichstag, as at present constituted, is so decided that he would be rejoiced to see it replaced by a body more obedient to his will. But the effect of the Rescript on the other Constituent States of the Empire has been more unfavourable than on Prussia itself. In that Kingdom its principles very fairly reflect the practice of civil servants during elections. In the majority of the German States, however, its maxims are in conflict with express prescriptions of the law, and, as the Cologne Gazette points out, with long Constitutional usage. The end is still hard to anticipate. But it is difficult to believe that the Chancellor's latest act, as interpreted by himself on Tuesday, will increase the Conservative minority, or discourage the enemies of order and good government in their evil aspirations .-

THE TROUBLES IN BASUTOLAND.

The Capetown correspondent of Standard telegraphed on Tuesday :-Basutoland still continues in a very unsettled state. Many of the Chiefs have, however, unwillingly accepted the award, but others, at whose head is Masupha, refuse to do so. Mr. Orpen has just made a vigorous effort to capture the rebel Chief, with the cooperation of Letsea and Lerothodi, but has failed in attaining his object. The two Chiefs named have in vain endeavoured to persuade Masupha to lay down his arms and submit to the award, and at last, finding that he refused to recognise the authority of Letsea, they agreed to use force to compel him to submit. Ten thousand horsem n accordcollected at Maseru under their orders, and. Mr. Open placing himself at their head, they made straight for Thaba Bosigo, his great moun ain stronghold. This was seized without any resistant tance being offered, but it was found that Masupha was absent with the greater portion of his men. Two of Letsea's sons, who are married to Masupha's daughters, have refused to proceed further in the matter, alleging that they had only agreed to a show of force, and so drew off with their followers. This left Mr. Orpen with only a third of his original force, and even these, as was evident by the demeanour of several of the Chiefs, were not to be relied upon. Lero-thodi was willing to stand by Mr. Orpen to the end, but the latter saw that under the changed condition a serious reverse might ensue should fighting commence, and a de-feat would probably lead to a general Basuto rising. He, therefore, fell back with the to Maseru. The feeling throughout Basutoland in general is in favour of peace, but the influence of the so-called National led by Masupha, is great, and the future of events must be considered as very uncertain.

PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS IN A memorial from the Jews of England on behalf of their oppressed brethren in Russia was on Friday last handed to Prince Lobanoff, the Russian Amhassador, for transmission to the Emperor of Russia. The Prince, however, acting under instructions from his Government, declined to transmit the memorial. The document was signed and presented in person by Sir Nathaniel M. de Rothschild, M.P., as chairman of a committee that has been specially appointed by the representatives of the Jewish community in this country to deal with the Russo-Jewish question. The committee consists of the following members :- Sir N. M. de Rothschild, M.P. Baron Henry de Worms, M.P., Mr. Serjeant Simon, M.P., Mr. Arthur Cohen, Q.C., M.P., Sir Julian Goldsmid, Baron George de Worms, Hon. Saul Samuel, Rev. Dr. Hermann Adler (delegate of the Chief Rabbi), Rev. A L. Green, Rev. A. Lowy, Dr. A. Asher, Messrs. Benjamin L Cohen, Lionel L. Cohen, Lewis Emanuel, Ellis A. Franklin, Alf. Goldsmid, Henry Harris, Alfred G. Henriques, Nathan S. Joseph, Fred. D. Mocatta, Samuel Montagu Morris S Oppenheim, Isaac Seligman, Leopold Schloss, and Joseph Sebag. The following is the full text of the memorial:—
"To His Imperial Majesty Alexander III.,

Emperor of All the Russias. The humble memorial of the Jews of England on behalf of the Jews of Russia.

" May it please your Imperial Majesty,-"A grievous cry of suffering has reached us from our brethren in faith in many parts of your Majesty's great Empire. For the past nine months large numbers of your Majesty's Jewish subjects, especially those residing in the southern provinces of your Majesty's dominions, have been the victims of serious civil outbreaks. The security of life and property, so many years enjoyed by them, has vanished. Murder, rapine, and pillage have taken its place. The most terrible deeds of

violence have been perpetrated on helpless women and children. Unarmed and unoffending men have become a prey to the fury of a brutal mob. The survivors, scarcely more fortunate than the slain, live only to find their nomes devastated or burnt, their fortunes wrecked, and their means of subsistence gone. Great, indeed, is our horror at these atrocities, but greater still, we feel certain must be your gracious Majesty's pain and indignation at the sufferings thus inflicted on thousands of your subjects.

"Until last year Jews and Christians throughout your Majesty's empire lived on terms of amity rarely, if ever, disturbed. No act of the Jews has been committed to warrant the interruption of the friendly attitude of their neighbours or the goodwill of their rulers. Your Jewish subjects love and honour your Majesty, and in their homes and synagogues pray for your welfare. They respect the laws and pay the State its just dues. They serve your Majesty in peace and war, even without hope or chance of promotion, and willingly lay down their lives for the country that has given them birth, and that has hitherto protected them. In truth, they are commanded by our sacred books to promote the welfare of the land which shelters them; to obey its laws, to honour its rulers, and to love, as themselves, their neighbours, though differing in faith; and the Israelites, acting in conformity with those precepts, are innocent of cause for the oppression that has befallen them.

"We have reason to believe that in most cases it has not been the honest, law-abiding neighbours of the Jews who have originated or perpetrated these lamentable excesses, but professional agitators from a distance, acting upon the turbulent and revolutionary spirits, the enemies of law, loyalty, and order. No better proof of this can be afforded than the fact that the ringleaders have in many ocalities, with an audacity and shamelessness unparalleled in history, traitorously used the august name of your Majesty as a warrant for their infamous projects, and have published a forged ukase purporting to authorise the general spoliation of the Jews. But we fear the cup of affliction of our brethren is not yet full, for the future appears even blacker than the past. For now the enemies of our brethren seek to palliate the atrocities that have been perpetrated, falsely declaring the Jews to have merited their persecution by their own misconduct, by their odious mode of trading, and by their having over-reached their neighbours; and these enemies endeavour to induce the Government of your Majesty to impose upon all Israelites such new restrictions as to residence, occupation, and education, as will not only prevent their fairly competing with their Christian fellow-subjects, but will practically prevent their becoming useful citizens and servants of the State, and will even debar them from earning their subsistence. We have heard with alarm and grief that commissions have been issued with instructions couched in terms of opprobrium and hostility, teeming with charges, assumed but not true, which would render impossible any result favourable to the Jews. The worst effects are, therefore, apprehended. Even in Poland, where the Israelites have ever dwelt on terms of good fellowship with their neighbours, and where, until the lamentable events of last month, they have always enjoyed immunity from outrage of any kind, like commissions have been issued with similar instructions, so that everywhere throughout your Majesty's dominions, the populace seems to imagine that it has the Imperial sanction for its ill-treatment of our brethren, an idea which we are convinced could never have been, however faintly, conceived by the benignant and humane spirit of your

Already, deplorable results have ensued from the terms in which these commissions have been issued. For many local authorities, in anticipation of the reports of the commission, have put in force certain ancient laws of domicile, which had fallen into desuctude, and have forcibly driven the Jews, still smarting from their recent calamities, away from the towns and villages which they have so long been permitted to inhabit while others, perhaps, a little less inhuman, have allowed them to remain, only on condition of their being pent up within the limits

of their ancient ghettos. "With regard to the imputations which have been made upon your Majesty's Jewish subjects, we humbly submit to your Majesty that whatever exceptional social position they may occupy, or whatever failings may be charged to some of them, these are due msinly to the exceptional laws to which they have been so long subjected. If, in some places, undue activity has characterised their conduct in certain trades and occupations, we believe it to be because other means of earning a subsistence have been denied them, because they have been too crowded in particular localities, and have, therefore, experienced the greatest difficulty in gaining a livelihood. We feel certain that if the special laws affecting the Jews were abolished their exceptional status, social and civil, would come to an end. Complaint would no longer be heard of their undue commercial and economic activity operating to the detriment of others if the Jews were suffered to disperse themselves at will so as to become merged amid their fellowsubjects instead of being concentrated, to the injury of themselves and others, in overcrowded hives of industry. Here in England, where perfect civil and religious equality has been granted to us, we English Jews can bear grateful testimony to the happy results effected by such complete emancipation. Here al those restrictions, civil, commercial, and educational which formerly oppressed us have happily been removed, and as a result, Jew and Christian here live and work side by side on terms of mutual respect and good fellowship, engaged in friendly rivalry, which stimulates public industry, and adds to the common weal. And so, Sire, may it be in the mighty empire whose destinies you wield with wisdom and onlightenment. For, as the late Emperor, your father, of sainted memory, rendered his name immortal as emancipato of millions of serfs, even so it may be your Majesty's high destiny to give life and protection to those now trembling on the verge of destruction, to give equal rights to the millions of your loyal Jewish subjects, who in their dread emergency look up to you, Sire, Emperor and father of your people, only for leave to live with home and hearth secure from violence. Humbly do we present this memorial to your Majesty on behalf of our brethren in the name of humanity-the foundation of all religion; in the name of justicethe heritage of all; in the name of mercy-the prerogative of imperial power. And we shall ever pray that the Supreme King of Kings may bless the efforts of your Majesty, for the glory of your mighty empire and the well-being of your subjects, and that He may grant your Majesty a long and prosperous and happy reign.

Signed, on behalf of the Jews of England, this 19th day of January, "N. M. DE ROTHSCHILD."

A POLLING DAY IN YORKSHIRE. A correspondent of the Daily News writin, from Middlesborough on Tuesday says :-A more cheery day than this for a drive through the North Yorkshire dales and a run on the North Eastern Railway could not have been expected at the present season of the Wintry mists, rising at early morning from the big brown fields of arable land, the hills and moors, and great breadths of pasturage, rolled gently away before the beams of the rising sun. As the day advanced the atmosphere became clear and bracing, and the sun-lit air gleamed with all the brightness

of morn known as "the first grey steak of dawn" appeared above the horizon the echoes were awakened in the long wide street which constitutes the town of Northallerton with the rolling of carriages and the cheering of their drivers on their way to bring in voters from outlying villages-such say, as Romanby, Brompton, Stank, and Winton. At the polling-house at nine o'clock stood gentlemanly agents, representing either side, backed up by assistants and by the bluecoated representative of law and order. Mr. Elliot, the borough member, booted and spurred, and rigged for a ride across country if need arose, was there too, looking after the interests of the Conservative candidate. "Now, I'll tell you what they ought to do," says Farmer Fairfield after voting. "This ballot is a good thing. The next thing they ought to do, they ought to do away with canvassing altogether, and let every one vote as he likes." "Good morning, John," says the agent to Forty-shilling Freeholder, "How are you?" "Very well," replies John, "is this t' road t' yout?" And in he goes. Of the vehicles bedecked with yellow (Liberal) or blue (Conservative) favours, which stood at the railway station to receive voters, the blues were decidedly more numerous and better equipped than the yellow traps, the Conservatives having sent out at least one private carriage and pair with tiger and everything complete. First-class carriages on the North-Eastern trains brought up voters provided with tickets at the expense of the respective parties.

On the road between Northallerton and

Middlesbrough, two miles away from Welbury Station, stands on the summit of a hill the purely agricultural village of East Harlsey, the polling place of this division of Allertonshire, just off the western border of Cleveland. Lord Harewood and Mr. Beaumont, of Huddersfield, both Conservatives are the principal proprietors of the soil. Both are fair landlords, several of the tenants of the former in this district holding their farms at little more than half rent. It might be presumed, therefore, that the tenantry here would be inclined to support the cause of admittedly good owners. Yet, according to the estimate at the Liberal agency in the Harsley grocer's shop, out of 89 electors who up to half-past ten had pushed their way through the group of villagers at the schoolhouse and there recorded their votes, 54 had "gone for "Rowlandson, 22 for Dawnay, and 13 doubtful. Here at least a considerable proportion of a total of 298 on the electoral roll had polled early, and had polled straight. Farmers, as one of them told me, have been furnished by the Conservatives with three or four newspapers a day, free; "but what they say even in their own paper one day they contradict t' next. There were not many farms actually unoccupied in that district, but there were 40 advertisements "in t' Herald" of North Riding holdings that were open to treaty. Feeling ran high between yellow and blue in this sequestered and beautiful locality. The fresh and pretty cottager's daughter of 16 standing at the garden gate, dressed in her Sunday's best, wore a yellow ribbon in her dark hair, perhaps because the colour matched and "set her off." Men and boys followed such an example in the way of decoration as best they could, at of course an immeasurable distance of disadvantage. While writing this in the waiting room at Welbury station, pending the arrival of the Middlesbrough train, I have been for a quarter of an hour perforce auditor of a spirited discussion between an intelligent and Liberal railway man on one side of the line. and a solid Conservative gamekeeper on the other. "Who fit against the Mines Regulation Bill and the Factories Act? Who opposed the education of the working classes of this country?" cried the gifted platform orator. Furfeather was shut up; he had, indeed, no chance of opening out on his voluble oppo-

THE BENCHERS AND THE TEMPLE. The Benchers of the Middle Temple have within the last few days decided on a step which many Londoners will learn with regret It has been resolved to pull down the block of buildings known as Brick-court, and to erect on their site what may prove to be a more suitable pile. In the course of the last two or three years the builder has been very busy within the Temple precincts. Whole courts have been pulled down, rows of houses whose architecture was simple, solid, and suitable to the purposes of retirement and study, and in their place we find structures which are certainly more pretentious and are certainly also more highly rented. The classic green recesses which it so delighted Charles to wander through no longer remind us of that collegiate aspect which the Temple used We have got a terra-cotta fountain such as the New-road might supply to some retired tradesman's retreat at Richmond. and we have got terraces and buildings no doubt very elaborate in their decoration, but suggestive of the architecture of the modern Insurance Office or the still more modern Railway Station Hotel. There is a

great deal of that clumsy external ornament which is thought to inspire confidence in shareholders, and to give the hesitating traveller assurance of a well-managed concern. There is plenty of taste also, perhaps rather too much of it. The abundance of the taste cannot be denied, and the only question to be asked is whether it is good taste. It is not, however, for its architectural qualities that Brick-court can advance a claim to public recognition. No elevation in the Temple can be regarded as more simple or more unpretentious. But amongst its few houses one is very memorable in literary history. As you descend Middle Temple-lane from Fleet-street, the last house on the right-

hand side, the corner house into Essex-court contains the chambers in which Oliver Goldsmith lived and worked and died. That staircase must have been known to many men of letters whose names are now famous and, if we may judge of the friends of a man from the man himself, to many a poor struggling scribbler and literary hack, whom the kind-hearted poet befriended, and to whom he lent the money he had himself borrowed. Reynolds and Johnson and Burke must often have paused at that door-way, and it was round it that that strange concourse of mourners, which Mr. Forster has described and Mr. Ward has painted, assembled on the morning when Goldsmith's death was first known as a public event. The ill news travelled fast to the studio in Leicester-square, where Sir Joshua, when he heard it, laid his palette down and trusted himself to do no more work that day. It is strange to see how the Temple has been bound up with the lives of so many of the noted men of that generation, and it is strange, too, how nearly all the houses thus rendered famous have one by one disappeared. This house of poor Goldsmith is almost the last of them. Johnson himself lived at No. 1, Inner Temple-lane, where a new row of houses now hears his name. At the bottom of the lane, opposite the church porch, Boswell took up his residence, to be near his idol. The site is occupied by a very different structure. Not far off, in fact just within the the gate, Burke had his chambers up two pair of stairs, and in that same row, houses, half a century later, Charles Lamb found a resting-place for himself, his sister, and many of his friends. One by one

widened, and important sites to be occupied; in others the architect pronounced the buildings dangerous, and they were taken down lest they should fall. The authorities of the Temple seem to have

the old houses have been pulled down and

the new ones built up. The names of these great authors haunt the Temple, but their

local habitations are no longer to be found.

In some cases theroughfares had to be

In any other capital the houses of great men of a past generation would have been diligently sought out and the record of them sedulously preserved. The traveller who passes up the Zeil on a summer's day can see the gilt letters which form Mozart's name flashing in the sunshine from the balcony of the house of Frankfort where the composer used to stop on his journeys from Salzburg or Vienna. There is probably not a Temple porter, not a barrister's clerk, not half-a-dozen barristers perhaps in the Temple, who could show a stranger the house where Goldsmith lived and died. The town of Frankfort acquired and possesses and protects the house where Gothe's father lived, and where the poet was himself born. But then the Germans are a people addicted to literature. But what is found in Germany is found in other countries also. There is scarcely a city in Italy where the votive tablet on the house-front does not provoke for the stranger a fresh interest in a amiliar name. The statue, the bust, the plaque meet you at almost every turn. Englishman is sometimes surprised to find honours shown to his countrymen abroad which they might not have attained at home. In Dublin there is no tablet to distinguish that house in Merrion-square which Daniel O'Connell occupied for so many years, but in Genoa the hotel in which he died has a monument in relief over the door and an inscription under it setting forth his exploits. In Florence, just past the Academy, the house which Mrs. Browning occupied is similarly distinguished. In the case of the Temple there is no excuse of either want of power or want of wealth. The Benchers are an opulent body, and an irresponsible body. They can pull down and they can build up. They can give the order for such constructions as their new Temple Gardens, and they can command for a single set of chambers in them such a rent as might secure a roomy house in Russell-square. But it seems never to have occurred to them to do anything to beautify or humanise the Temple. Their nearest approach to public spirit has been the repainting of the old sundials and the lazoning upon them of the proud initials of the Treasurer for the year. And now in a few weeks the work of demolition will begin, and a house which ought to have been one of the treasures of the Temple will be razed to the ground. Would it not be a graceful thing if this wealthy body were to erect some slight monument to the memory of an author who has rendered the Temple famous to others than lawyers and to others than Englishmen? More than forty years ago a white marble slab which had been put up in the Temple Church was af erwards transferred to the recesses of the Vestry Chamber. But Goldsmith's fame and his connection with the Temple should not be hid away and removed from the general eye. If the house had been in some second-rate German town, such as Mannheim or Nuremberg, a statue would have marked the Platz which would have borne the name of the poet .- Daily News.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, TUESDAY. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Elv. Her Majesty's dinner Princess Beatrice, Lady Abercromby (Lady in Waiting), the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, Madame de Arcos, the Duke de Bassano, Baron de Corvisart, Captain Thomson, Major-General Du Plat, and the Master of the Household. Mrs. Bigge and Mile. de Corvisart had the honour of being invited to join the Royal circle in the Drawing-room. The Queen walked and drove this morning attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely. The Empress Eugénie, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, visited the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley, having crossed over in her Majesty's yacht Alberta, Captain Thomson. Princess Beatrice was attended by the Hon. Lady Biddulph, Mile. Norèle, and Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B.

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Lerwick on Tuesday morning in the yacht Lively. Lecocq immediately went on board for instructions, and on returning to the shore about 400 of the Reserve were drawn up in line extending from Fort Charlotte to the Custom House Pier. There were many demonstrations of loyalty in honour of the Royal visit. The Duke left the Lively in the company of Captain Lestrange, Captain Prowse, and his secretary Mr. Rickards, landing in one of the yacht's steam launches. On reaching the pier his Royal Highness was received by Captain Lecocq, and was conducted to the north gate of Fort Charlotte. On his way he was again and again cheered. Having arrived at the parade ground, the inspection of the Reserve was immediately commenced, the men being exercised in manual and firing exercises, and subsequently being engaged in company drill. At the close of the inspection the Duke expressed to Captain Lecocq his high satisfaction with the efficiency of the men. He afterwards examined the armoury and buildings, with the appearance of which he said he was

M. Challemel-Lacour's guests at his dinner party at the French Embassy, on Tuesday, ncluded the Italian Ambassador and the Marquise de Menabrea Val Dora, the Spanish Minister, the Swedish Minister, the United States Minister, the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone, Earl and Countess Granville, the Earl of Northbrook and Lady Emma Baring, Lord and Lady Arthur Russell, Sir Charles Dilke, General Sir Francis and Lady Seymour, Sir N. de Rothschild, and the personnel of the Embassy, Count and Countess d'Aunay, Baron Estournelles, Lieutenant-Colonel Descharmes, M. Léon de la Chauvinière, and M. P. Crozier.

The Earl of Northbrook arrived at his

official residence at the Admiralty on Tuesday, accompanied by Lady Emma Baring, from Stratton Park, Hants. The Countess of Courtown and the Ladies

Stopford have arrived in Eccleston-square from Ireland, for the season.

The Premier, accompanied by Mrs. Gladstone and family, arrived at his official residence in Downing-street, from Hawarden Castle, on Tuesday.
The Right Hon. Hugh and Mr. Childers

have removed from Princes-gardens to 117, Sir Gilbert and Lady Clayton East have arrived at 3, Grosvenor-gardens, and will remain till Easter.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE " WORLD.") The marriage of the Earl of Winchilsea with Lady Elizabeth Bryant is fixed for Feb. For obvious reasons, the ceremony 18th. will be attended by only a few of the nearest

relations. Mr. Leigh, eldest son of Mrs. Henry Leigh. and nephew of Mr. Gerard Leigh, had a frightful fall from his horse whilst hunting with the Bicester Hounds last week, and broke his collar-bone, fracturing it in three separate places. He is, however, doing well, and hopes to recover in time to have yet some

hunting before the season is over. Lady Emmeline Boyle, eldest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Cork, is very ill. suffering from an attack of intermittent fever. Measles of a bad sort are very prevalent just now. Sir John Willoughly is lying dan-

gerously ill from an attack of this disease. Lord Lansdowne, who has let his town mansion to Lord Rosebery for a term of years, intends shutting up Bowood, his magificent family seat in Wiltshire, and living in a smaller house till times are better, and

Irish tenants pay their rents. Tradespeople and house-agents in town begin to feel the pinch. No rent means to them no letting of Belgravian and Mayfair houses; no dinners, balls, or smart frocksin fact, no circulation of money.

In one of the eastern counties the office of sheriff, once so coveted and sought-for an honour, has been refused by no fewer than seven gentlemen in succession, all landed proprietors and on the county roll for sheriff, each pleading poverty and total inability to stand the expense. The Lord-Lieutenant has, it is said, after inconceivable difficulty, met with a gentleman who, having fortunately made his money in commerce, and purchased one of the old landed estates merely as a luxury, will be able to pay his way and come forth at the next assizes in the true glories of the shrievalty.

Mr. Chamberlain, Sir C. Dilke, and Mr.

Fawcett will be placed in a little difficulty when the vote for the Duke of Albany comes on. It is their intention, I believe, to walk out of the House; and Mr Gladstone has assured them that they will be forgiven if they absent themselves from the discussion. Whether their Radical supporters will be satisfied with this way of evading an expression of opinion on the subject of Royal grants is another question.

Business will soon come to a dead-lock in the country districts of England. Magistrates are scarcer day by day, and in many places it

is found impossible to make up a bench, owing to the number of absentees.

It is refreshing to hear of something gay and cheerful, and more like old times, in rural England. At Henham Hall, the seat of Lord Stradbroke, Christmas has been kept with the hospitality besitting the position of its owner as Lord-Lieutenant of the county. A great ball was given to the servants and employés on the estate the day after Christmas; and since then a succession of entertainments for high and low have enlivened the neighbourhood. Some very good private theatricals were performed the second week in January, at which most of the members of the family assisted; and conspicuous amongst the actors were Mr. Gery Milner-Gibson Cullum, son of Mr. Milner-Gibson, one of the A.D.C. company, and Mr. Henry Manners, both of whom greatly distinguished them-

The poachers in the Norfolk district hold the Prince of Wales in high esteem, and few of them would willingly ply their vocation on the Sandringham estate. A man, now in durance vile for being concerned in a poaching affray on another property in Norfolk, told the chaplain the other day that he was never in trouble while he lived at Sandringham, nor anybody else. "If a man needed a dinner there," he added, "and wanted a rabbit, he had only to go to the house and ask for one. The Prince gave special orders that the men were not to trespass and shoot for themselves, but that his keepers were always to supply a rabbit to any labourer on the estate; and that, if none were in hand, they were immediately to go out and shoot This is generous on the Prince's

part, and the poachers fully appreciate it.

The curiosity of the "smart people" to see

Mrs. Langtry on the stage has satisfied itself by attendance at her morning debut, and the Haymarket house on Thursday last had merely a usual "first-night" appearance. Among those present who are and his bride, Lord Torrington, Lord Barrington, and Colonel Farquharson. The play was the prolonged farce of Ours, with claptrap drummings and fifings, its repartees of rudeness, and its melancholy fun of pudding-making, and ladies dressed up soldiers' hats and drilling each other, after the manner of the circus-clown. I was, I confess, disappointed with Mrs. Langiry's performance of the heroine. It was not, to my mind, so good as her Miss Hardcastle. She has plenty of confidence and of aplomb; ber appearance as Blanche Haye was very charming; and at the end of the second act she warmed up into something like feeling, and her swoon was natural and excellent. But throughout the rest of the piece she was terribly hard and unemotional; her gaiety and her pathos equally lack spontaneity; and her voice, though clear and musical, conveys in words only, not in timbre, what she has to express. It should be remembered that she has not yet appeared a dozen times on the stage; and if she does not really possess all the attributes for which many of the critics have given her credit, it is not to be wondered at.

While Londoners were gazing at Mrs. Langtry Mr. J. L. Toole was making mirth for his Royal master at Sandringham. The Prince has always taken great interest in this excellent comedian, and took advantage of the opportunity offered by a little supper after the performance to propose Mr. Toole's health in very graceful terms.

Lord Lurgan was more or less an invalid even in the days of Master McGrath's glory, and he must have been a thorough sportsman to have gone on coursing through and sore suffering, till his release last week. Master McGrath, an Eclipse among greyhounds, owes his name to the lad " walked" him as a puppy, and whose in-tercession, en dit, saved him from a hempen collar; for his first essay was, like many a subsequent celebrity's, a rank failure. He was bred by the late Mr. James Galwey, of Coligan Lodge, Co. Waterford, a fine type of patriarchal sportsmen, whose terriers were as well-known as his "long tails."

It seems that les idees Irlandaises are at last penetrating the official atmosphere of the Castle, and that patronage is flowing in Irish streams, as it should have done long ago. Lord Cowper's household and staff sh very decided preponderance of the Hibernian element. Colonel Dease is Chamberlain, his nephew an A.D.C., both Irish. Colonel Caulfield, the Comptroller, is, of course, a native; and so are Colonel Frank Foster, Master of the Horse, Captain George Howard, Captain McCalmont, and Captain Rowan Hamilton. The last addition to the staff is Major Harry Malone, of the 16th Lancers, a descendant of the well-known commentator of Shakespeare and the famous Judge Malone. In critical times physical strength is by no means a despicable auxiliary; and if force were required, Major Malone could probably supply any amount of the vis major. He will be a very Saul among the A D.C.'s.

Of the three packs hunting foxes now in

Ireland, Kilkenny has perhaps the most pre-carious existence. The field is chiefly sup-ported by Lord Desart and Sir James Langrishe's studs. The Marquis of Ormonde has given his veto against the sport, though his brother has been seen in a run lately. The Master, Captain Hartopp, keeps up his popularity, and a short time ago he sang at a con-cert at the barracks in Kilkenny; and although his voice is more suited to the hunting-field than the concert-room, he earned loud applause by singing "I fear no foe" and the "Four-leaved Shamrock." Altogether Kilkenny prides itself on being the quietest county in Ireland after Louth and

The Governorship of Ceylon is likely to be vacant shortly, the present occupant of the office having nearly fulfilled the term of his appointment. It is rumoured that the Premier contemplates employing his power of patronage in favour of the member for

The dinner which is to take place at Mr. W. H. Smith's a day before the opening of Parliament is really intended to settle some little differences in the Tory party. The Opposition is by no means so "solid" as it looks. There is a moderate section, and there is an extreme section; and there is some risk that when the House comes to deal with the difficult question of procedure, there may be an open split in the party. The moderate Conservatives are in favour of considerable reforms in procedure, though not of the elôture; but the more thorough-going members of the

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Great Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 24 -25, 1882.

ABSOLUTISM IN PRUSSIA.

If any doubt ever existed regarding the meaning of the now famous Imperial Rescript, it must have been dispelled by the speech of Prince Bismarck in the German Parliament on Tuesday. The statement is not the less striking because it is dramatically characteristic of the man who makes it. The German Chancellor scorns any attempt at apology for the document which three weeks ago sent a shock of surprise not only throughout the Fatherland but throughout Europe. He vindicates its terms; he justifies its opportuneness; he even exults in its necessity. He begs the Deputies to dismiss from their minds any theoretical ideas regarding the nature of the German Imperial Constitution, or of the place which the Chancellor holds in it. The Chapcellor is the nominee of the Emperor; he was present in the Reichstag on Tuesday simply as the Royal Prussian Representative, or, as he styles himself, the Plenipotentiary of his Royal master. Having thus defined his own position, Prince Bismarck proceeded to explain the object of the Rescript. It created no new law: it only prevented the old one from being forgotten. The Constitution gave no counten-ance to the maxim which of late had begun to grow up, to the effect that "the King reigns but does not govern." That might be the state of the case in England and other limited Monarchies, under a system of responsible Ministers virtually the creatures of Parliamentary majorities, by whose vote they came into or went out of office. In Prussia-and by Prussia Prince Bismarck evidently meant Germany prevailed, and so long as the Emperor reigns never will "I can only assume," he remarked, "that those learned persons who speak of the Constitutional supremacy of the House are afflicted with an obscure vision." This obscurity, he went on to point out, consists in imagining that English liberty and Prussian Absolutism are 0.19 and the same thing. The Rescript is absolutely legal. The King's will is expressed in it, and he, as the countersigner of it, is responsible for anything to which it has given expression. "I am responsible for all the acts of the Sovereign, whether I countersign them or not. The signature of the King is always the chief thing." In brief, the country is governed by the King and the two Houses of the Legislature, and the Minister is the scapegoat." That the King commands and the Minister obeys has always been a tradition in Prussia, and the legend still possesses sufficient vitality to enable the Chancellor to affirm on Tuesday that though Ministers have to make numerous concessions, the real President of the Cabinet is the King himself. There can be no mistake about the meaning of these words. They have the true Bismarckian ring, and, unpalatable though they may be to German Liberals, they are the literal expression of a plain historical truth. When Prussia first received a Constitution in 1848, the King possessed ab-That is not surprising solute power. seeing that Absolutism was then the rule throughout Europe. Even England more than once in the previous century witnessed the spectacle of the King dismissing his advisers simply because they chose to hold opinions contrary to his own. In our day, when the Sovereign loyally accepts any Minister whom, in the opinion of the First Lord of the Treasury, it is essential for the welfare of the kingdom to have in office, it is difficult conceive of George IV. objecting to Canning, because, "as a gentleman, he had vowed that this statesman should never be taken into the Cabinet. Yet constitutionally, his Majesty had a perfect right to do so. Ministers in England however, being absolutely dependent on a Parliamentary majority, the Sovereign has long ago ceased to exercise any choice not compatible with the will of the people. In Prussia this has never been the case. The King selects whom he wills, and Parliament may or may not, as seems best in its eyes, endorse the selection. Its only check is its tenure of the purse strings But even this control, as Prince Bismarck has occasionally demonstrated, is more nominal than real. In Prussia, and more or less in all the German States, the Monarch is a weighty personality. Indeed, in 1848, very little support was given to the idea which has since grown up and partially obscured the letter of the Constitution-the idea that the King reigns but does not govern-and the theory of Government by majority was far from being generally entertained. This indisputable fact Prince Bismarck begs his hearers to call to memory. Whether such a system would work in the Prussia of to-day may be doubted. But, all events, the two Kings who have sat on the Throne since the Constitution was granted have made every concession to preserve the country from drifting in that direction. The Chancellor goes further when he declares that had he pursued a Parliamentary policy in 1864 the country would have "experienced a second Olmutz." and, he adds significantly, "all of you gentlemen, perhaps, would not have been here to-day." Possibly not. To its

hamper and annoy can never be an instrument for much good, and politicians who know that they will never be called on to carry out in office the principles they professed when out of it, are not likely to be wise in council or temperate in speech. The accuracy of Prince Bismarck's interpretation of the Rescript was not challenged. Herr von Bennigsen, the Leader of the National Liberals, was compelled to admit that it was "indisputably Constitutional," and the criticisms of Herren Stauffenberg and Richter seem to have been devoted, not so much to

a consideration of its illegality as to its

effects on the present situation. This is,

however, a question which concerns Prince

Bismarck more than his opponents. He

may have been acting strictly within the limits of the Constitution; but it would have been discreet to have roused public opinion at a moment more opportune than the present, and in a manner less irritating. Public functionaries who are favourable to the existing state of affairs are not likely to play false to their Sovereign at the polls, while those who may be less friendly will not, if human nature is the same in Germany as in lands further west. be inclined to avail themselves of the ballot to further the purposes of a Minister who has so bluntly ordered them to attend to what he considers their duty. Its effect on the nation at large will be even more prejudicial. Liberty, as we understand it, has never been quite grasped in Germany. Then it is true, to use the words of Professor Freitzchke, the Sovereign "has always borne responsibility before God and man "-thus making a marked distinction between moral and legal responsibility-and his claims have to a certain extent been allowed by the nation. But until the issue of this Rescript the people were beginning to recognise Divine Right and Personal Government as merely shadowy attributes kept in stock, though never intended to be actually called into use. They now know differently, and the reminder has wounded their amour propre. Even the Professors of the University have addressed their students on the great question of the day, and the opinion seems to be that unless Prince Bismarck wishes to force on a desperate Constitutional struggle, with the object of abolishing the present Imperial Parliament altogether, his conduct appears to be extremely unwise. It is hardly likely that he harbours such an intention, though it is no secret that his antipathy to the Reichstag, as at present constituted, is so decided that he would be rejoiced to see it replaced by a body more obedient to his will. But the effect of the Rescript on the other Constituent States of the Empire has been more unfavourable than on Prussia itself. In that Kingdom its principles very fairly reflect the practice of civil servants during elections. In the majority of the German States, however, its maxims are in conflict with express prescriptions of the law, and, as the Cologne Gazette points out, with long Constitutional usage. The end is still hard to anticipate. But it is difficult believe that the Chancellor's latest act as interpreted by himself on Tuesday, will increase the Conservative minority, or discourage the enemies of order and good government in their evil aspirations .-

THE TROUBLES IN BASUTOLAND. The Capetown correspondent of the

Standard telegraphed on Tuesday :-Basutoland still continues in a very un-settled state. Many of the Chiefs have, how-ever, unwillingly accepted the award, but others, at whose head is Masuuha, refuse to Mr. Orpen has just made a vigorous effort to capture the rebel Chief, with the co-operation of Letsea and Lerothodi, but has failed in attaining his object. The two Chiefs named have in vain endeavoured to persuade Masupha to lay down his arms and submit to the award, and at last, finding that he refused to recognise the authority of Letsea, they agreed to use force to compel him to submit. Ten thousand horsemen accordingly collected at Maseru under their orders, and Mr. Orpen placing himself at their head, they made straightfor Thaba Bosigo, his great mounain strong-hold. This was seized without any resis-tance being offered, but it was found that Masupha was absent with the greater portion of his men. Two of Letsea's sons, who are married to Masupha's daughters, have refused to proceed further in the matter, alleg-ing that they had only agreed to a show of force, and 50 drew off with their followers. This left Mr. Orpen with only a third of his original force, and even these, as was evident by the demeanour of several of the Chiefs, were not to be relied upon. Lero-thodi was willing to stand by Mr. Orpen to the end, but the latter saw that under the changed condition a serious reverse might ensue should fighting commence, and a defeat would probably lead to a general Basuto rising. He, therefore, fell back with the to Maseru. The feeling throughout Basutoland in general is in favour of peace, but the influence of the so-called National Party, led by Masupha, is great, and the future of events must be considered as very

PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS IN

RUSSIA. A memorial from the Jews of England on behalf of their oppressed brethren in Russia was on Friday last handed to Prince Lobanoff, the Russian Ambassador, for transmission to the Emperor of Russia. The Prince, however acting under instructions from his Government, declined to transmit the memorial. The document was signed and presented in person by Sir Nathaniel M. de Rothschild, M.P., as chairman of a committee that has been specially appointed by the representatives of the Jewisl community in this country to deal with the Russo-Jewish question. The committee consists of the following members:—Sir N. M. de Rothschild, M.P., Baron Henry de Worms, M.P., Mr. Serjeant Simon, M.P., Mr. Arthur Cohen, Q.C., M.P., Sir Julian Goldsmid, Baron George de Worms, Hon. Saul Samuel, Rev. Dr. Hermann Adler (delegate of the Chief Rabbi), Rev. A. L. Green, Rev. A. Lowy, Dr. A. Asher, Messrs. Benjamin L. Cohen, Lionel L. Cohen, Lewis Emanuel, Cohen, Lionel L. Cohen, Lewis Emanuel, Ellis A. Franklin, Alf. Goldsmid, Henry Harris, Alfred G. Henriques, Nathan S. Joseph, Fred. D. Mocatta, Samuel Montagu, Morris S. Oppenheim, Isaac Seligman, Leopold Schloss, and Joseph Sebag. The following is the full text of the memorial:—

"To His Imperial Majesty Alexander III., Emperor of All the Russias.

Emperor of All the Russias.

'The humble memorial of the Jews of England on behalf of the Jews of Russia.

May it please your Imperial Majesty .-"A grievous cry of suffering has reached us from our brethren in faith in many parts of your Majesty's great Empire. For the past nine months large numbers of your Majesty's Jowish subjects, especially those residing in the southern provinces of your Majesty's dominions, have been the victims of serious civil outbreaks. The security of life and pro-Parliament Prussia owes little; to its Chancellor it owes a great deal. But a Parliament that has only the power to taken its place. The most terrible deeds of

violence have been perpetrated on helpless women and children. Unarmed and unoffending men have become a prey to the fury of a The survivors, scarcely fortunate than the slain, live only to find their homes devastated or burnt, their fortunes wrecked, and their means of subsistence gone. Great, indeed, is our horror at these atrocities, but greater still, we feel certain must be your gracious Majesty's pain and indignation at the sufferings thus inflicted on thousands of your subjects.

"Until last year Jews and Christians throughout your Majesty's empire lived on terms of amity rarely, if ever, disturbed. No act of the Jews has been committed to warrant the interruption of the friendly attitude of their neighbours or the goodwill of their rulers. Your Jewish subjects love and honour your Majesty, and in their homes and synagogues pray for your welfare. They respect the laws and pay the State its just dues. They serve your Majesty in peace and war, even without hope or chance of promotion, and willingly lay down their lives for the security the base given these high. the country that has given them birth, and that has hitherto protected them. In truth, they are commanded by our sacred books to promote the welfare of the land which shelters them; to obey its laws, to honour its rulers, and to love, as themselves, their neighbours, though differing in faith; and the Israelites, acting in conformity with those precepts, are innocent of cause for the oppression that has befallen them.

"We have reason to believe that in most cases it has not been the honest, law-abiding neighbours of the Jews who have originated or perpetrated these lamentable excesses, but professional agitators from a distance, acting upon the turbulent and revolutionary spirits, the enemies of law, loyalty, and order. No better proof of this can be afforded than the fact that the ringleaders have in many localities, with an audacity and shamelessness unparalleled in history, traitorously used the august name of your Majesty as a warrant for their infamous projects, and have published a forged ukase purporting to authorise the general spoliation of the Jews. But we fear the cup of affliction of our brethren is not yet full, for the future appears even blacker than the past. For now the enemies of our brethren seek to palliate the atrocities that have been perpetrated, falsely declaring the Jews to have merited their persecution by their own misconduct, by their odious mode of trading, and by their having over-reached their neighbours; and these enemies endeavour to induce the Government of your Majesty to impose upon all Israelites such new restrictions as to residence, occupation. and education, as will not only prevent their fairly competing with their Christian fellow-subjects, but will practically prevent their be-coming useful citizens and servants of the State, and will even debar them from earning their subsistence. We have heard with alarm and grief that commissions have been issued with instructions couched in terms of opprobrium and hostility, teeming with charges, assumed but not true, which would render impossible any result favourable to the Jews. The worst effects are, therefore, apprehended. where the Israelites have ever dwel on terms of good fellowship with their neigh-bours, and where, until the lamentable events of last month, they have always en-joyed immunity from outrage of any kind, like commissions have been issued with similar instructions, so that everywhere through out your Majesty's dominions, the populace seems to imagine that it has the Imperial sanction for its ill-treatment of our brethren, an idea which we are convinced could never have been, however faintly, conceived by the benignant and humane spirit of your Majesty.

Already, deplorable results have ensued from the terms in which these commissions have been issued. For many local authorities, in anticipation of the reports of the commission, have put in force certain ancient laws of domicile, which had fallen into desuetude, and have forcibly driven the Jews. still smarting from their recent calamities away from the towns and villages which the have so long been permitted to inhabit while others, perhaps, a little less inhuman have allowed them to remain, only on condition of their being pent up within the limits

of their ancient ghettos.

"With regard to the imputations which have been made upon your Majesty's Jewish subjects, we humbly submit to your Majesty that whatever exceptional social position they may occupy, or whatever failings may be charged to some of them, these are msinly to the exceptional laws to which they have been so long subjected. If, in some places, undue activity has characterised their conduct in certain trades and occupations, we believe it to be because other means of earning a subsistence have been denied them because they have been too crowded in parti cular localities, and have, therefore, experienced the greatest difficulty in gaining a livelihood. We feel certain that if the special laws affecting the Jews were abolished their exceptional status, social and civil, would

e to an end. Complaint would longer be heard of their undue commercial and economic activity operating to the detriment of others if the Jews were suffered to disperse themselves at will so as to become merged amid their fellowsubjects instead of being concentrated, to the injury of themselves and others, in over-crowded hives of industry. Here in England, where perfect civil and religious equality has been granted to us, we English Jews can bear grateful testimony to the happy results effected by such complete emancipation. Here all those restrictions, civil, commercial, and educational which formerly oppressed us have happily been removed, and, as a result, Jew and Christian here live and work side by side on terms of mutual respect and good fellowship, engaged in friendly rivalry, which stimulates public industry, and adds to the common weal. And so, Sire, may it be in the mighty empire whose destinies you wield with isdom and enlightenment. For, as the late Emperor, your father, of sainted memory, rendered his name immortal as emancipator of millions of serfs, even so it may be your Majesty's high destiny to give life and protection to those now trembling on the verge of destruction, to give equal rights to the millions of your loyal Jewish subjects, who in their dread emergency look up to you, Sire, Emperor and father of your people, only for leave to live with home and hearth secure from violence. Humbly do we present this memorial to your Majesty on behalf of our hyperbrack in the form brethren in the name of humanity—the foun-dation of all religion; in the name of justice the heritage of all; in the name of mercy-the prerogative of imperial power. And we shall ever pray that the Supreme King of Kings may bless the efforts of your Majesty, for the

this 19th day of January,
"N. M. DE ROTHSCHILD." A POLLING DAY IN YORKSHIRE. A correspondent of the Daily News writing from Middlesborough on Tuesday says:—A more cheery day than this for a drive through the North Yorkshire dales and a run on the North Eastern Railway could not have been expected at the present season of the year. Wintry mists, rising at early morning from the big brown fields of arable land, the hills and moors, and great breadths of pasturage, rolled gently away before the beams of the rising sun. As the day advanced the atmosphere became clear and bracing, and

u-lit air gleamed with all the brightness

of a May day, The people of rural Yorkshire are early risers, and long before that harbinger

glory of your mighty empire and the well-being of your subjects, and that He may grant

your Majesty a long and prosperous and

happy reign."
"Signed, on behalf of the Jews of England,

of morn known as "the first grey steak of dawn" appeared above the horizon the echoes were awakened in the long wide street which constitutes the town of Northallerton with the rolling of carriages and the cheering of their drivers on their way to bring in voters from outlying villages—such say, as Romanby, Brompton, Stank, and Winton. At the polling-house at nine o'clock stood gentlemanly agents, representing either side, backed up by assistants and by the bluecoated representative of law and order. Mr. Elliot, the borough member, booted and spurred, and rigged for a ride across country if need arose, was there too, looking after the interests of the Conservative candidate. " Now, I'll tell you what they ought to do," says Farmer Fairfield after voting. "This ballot is a good thing. The next thing they ought to do, they ought to do away with canvassing altogether, and let every one vote as he likes." "Good morning, John," says the agest to Forty-shilling, Fresholder. the agent to Forty-shilling Freeholder,
"How are you?" "Very well," replies
John, "is this t' road t' voat?" And in he goes. Of the vehicles bedecked with yellow (Liberal) or blue (Conservative) favours, Of the vehicles bedecked with yellow which stood at the railway station to receive voters, the blues were decidedly more numerous and better equipped than the yellow traps, the Conservatives having sent out at least one private carriage and pair with tiger and everything complete. First-class car-riages on the North-Eastern trains brought

up voters provided with tickets at the expense of the respective parties. On the road between Northallerton and Middlesbrough, two miles away from Welbury Station, stands on the summit of a hill the purely agricultural village of East Harlsey, the polling place of this division of Allertonshire, just off the western border of Cleveland. Lord Harewood and Mr. Beaumont, of Huddersfield, both Conservatives are the principal proprietors of the soil. Both are fair landlords, several of the tenants of the former in this district holding their farms at little more than half rent. It might be presumed, therefore, that the tenantry here would be inclined to support the cause of admittedly good owners. Yet, according to the estimate at the Liberal agency in the Harsley grocer's shop, out of 89 electors who up to half-past ten had pushed their way through the group of villagers at the school-house and there recorded their votes. 54 had house and there recorded their votes, 54 had "gone for "Rowlandson, 22 for Dawnay, and 13 doubtful. Here at least a considerable proportion of a total of 298 on the electoral roll had polled early, and had polled straight. Farmers, as one of them told me, have been furnished by the Conservatives with three or four newspapers a day, free; "but what they say even in their own paper one day they contradict t' next, mebbe." There were not many farms actually unoccupied in that district, but there were 40 advertisements "in t'Herald" of North Riding holdings that were open to treaty Feeling ran high between yellow and blue in this sequestered and beautiful locality. The fresh and pretty cottager's daughter of 16 standing at the garden gate, dressed in her Sunday's best, wore a yellow ribbon in her dark hair, perhaps because the colour matched and "set her off." Men and boys followed such an example in the way of decoration as best they could, at of course an immeasurable distance of disadvantage. While writing this in the waiting room at Welbury station, pending the arrival of the Middlesbrough train, I have been for a quarter of an hour perforce auditor of a spirited discussion between an intelligent and Liberal railway man on one side of the line, and a solid Conservative gamekeeper on the other. "Who fit against the Mines Regulation Bill and the Factories Act? Who opposed the education of the working classes of this country?" cried the gifted platform orator. Furfeather was shut up; he had, indeed, no chance of opening out on his voluble oppo-

THE BENCHERS AND THE TEMPLE. The Benchers of the Middle Temple have within the last few days decided on a step which many Londoners will learn with regret It has been resolved to pull down the block of buildings known as Brick-court, and to erect on their site what may prove to be a more suitable pile. In the course of the last two or three years the builder has been very busy within the Temple precincts. Whole courts have been pulled down, rows of houses whose architecture was simple, solid, and suitable to the purposes of retirement and study, and in their place we find structures which certainly more pretentious and are certainly also more highly rented. The classic green recesses which it so delighted Charles Lamb

wander through no longer remind us of that collegiate aspect which the Temple used to wear. We have got a terra-cotta fountain to wear. We have got a terra-cotta fountain such as the New-road might supply to some retired tradesman's retreat at and we have got terraces and buildings no doubt very elaborate in their decoration, but suggestive of the architecture of the modern Insurance Office or the still more modern Railway Station Hotel. There is great deal of that clumsy external ornament which is thought to inspire confidence in shareholders, and to give the hesitating tra-veller assurance of a well-managed concern There is plenty of taste also, perhaps rather too much of it. The abundance of the taste cannot be denied, and the only question to be

asked is whether it is good taste. It is not, however, for its architectural qualities that Brick-court can advance a claim to public recognition. No elevation in the Temple can be regarded as more simple or more unpretentious. But amongst its few houses one is very memorable in literary history. As you descend Middle Temple-lane from Fleet-street, the last house on the righthand side, the corner house into Essex-court contains the chambers in which Oliver Goldsmith lived and worked and died. That staircase must have been known to many men of letters whose names are now famous and, if we may judge of the friends of a man from the man himself, to many a poor struggling scribbler and literary back, whom the kind-hearted poet befriended, and to whom he lent the money he had himself borrowed. Reynolds and Johnson and Burke must often have paused at that door-way, and it was round it that that strange concourse of mourners, which Mr. Forster has described and Mr. Ward has painted, assembled on the morning when Goldsmith's death was first known as a public event. The ill news travelled fast to the studio in Leicester-square, where Sir Joshua, when he heard it, laid his palette down and trusted himself to do no more work that day. It is strange to see how the Temple has been bound up with the lives of so many of the noted men of that generation, and it is strange, too, how nearly all the thus rendered famous have one by one disappeared. This house of poor Goldsmith is almost the last of them. Johnson himself lived at No. 1, Inner Temple-lane, where a new row of houses now bears his name. At the bottom of the lane, opposite the church porch, Boswell took up his residence, to be porch, Boswell took up his residence, to be near his idol. The site is occupied by a very different structure. Not far off, in fact just within the the ga'e, Burke had his chambers up two pair of stairs, and in that same row of houses, half a century later, Charles Lamb found a resting-place for himself, his sister, and many of his friends. One by one the old houses have been pulled down, and the new ones built up. The names of these great authors haunt the Temple, but their local habitations are no longer to be found. In some cases thoroughfares had to be

widened, and important sites to be occupied

in others the architect pronounced the build-

est they should fail.

ings dangerous, and they were taken down The authorities of the Temple seem to have

taken no pride in the associations of the place. In any other capital the houses of great men of a past generation would have been diligently houses; no dinners, balls, or smart frocks— In any other capital the houses of great men of a past generation would have been diligently sought out and the record of them sedulously preserved. The traveller who passes up the Zeil on a summer's day can see the gilt letters which form Mozart's name flashing in the sunshine from the balcony of the house of Frankfort where the composer used to stop on his journeys from Salzburg or Vienna. There is probably not a Temple porter, not a barrister's clerk, not half-a-dozen barristers perhaps in the Temple, who could show a perhaps in the Temple, who could show a stranger the house where Goldsmith lived and The town of Frankfort acquired and possesses and protects the house where Gothe's father lived, and where the poet was himself born. But then the Germans are a people addicted to literature. But what is found in Germany is found in other countries also. There is scarcely a city in Italy where the votive tablet on the house-front does not provoke for the stranger a fresh interest in a familiar name. The statue, the bust, the plaque meet you at almost every turn. The Englishman is sometimes surprised to find honours shown to his countrymen abroad which they might not have attained at home. In Dublin there is no tablet to distinguish that house in Merrion-square which Daniel O'Connell occupied for so many years, but in Genoa the hotel in which he died has a monument in relief over the door and an inscription under it setting forth his exploits. In Florence, just past the Academy, the house which Mrs. Browning occupied is similarly distinguished. In the case of the Temple there is no excuse of either want of power or want of wealth. The Benchers are an opulent body, and an irresponsible body. They can pull down and they can build up. They can give the order for such construc-tions as their new Temple Gardens, and they can command for a single set of chambers in them such a rent as might secure a roomy house in Russell-square. But it seems never to have occurred to them to do anything to beautify or humanise the Temple. Their nearest approach to public spirit has been the repainting of the old sundials and the blazoning upon them of the proud initials of the Treasurer for the year. And now in a few weeks the work of demolition will begin, and a house which ought to have been one of the treasures of the Temple will be razed to the ground. Would it not be a graceful thing if this wealthy body were to erect some slight monument to the memory of an author who has rendered the Temple famous to others than lawyers and to others than Engothers than lawyers and to others than Englishmen? More than forty years ago a white marble slab which had been put up in the Temple Church was afterwards transferred to the recesses of the Vestry Chamber. But Goldsmith's fame and his connection with the Temple should not be hid away and removed from the general eye. If the heads from the general eye. If the house had been in some second-rate German town, such as Mannheim or Nuremberg, a statue would have marked the Platz which would have borne the name of the poet .- Daily News.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, TUESDAY. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely. Her Majesty's dinner in the evening included the Empress Eugénie, Princess Beatrice, Lady Abercromby (Lady in Waiting), the Dowager Marchioness of in Waiting), the Dowager Marches Ely, Madame de Arcos, the Duke de Bassano, Baron de Corvisart, Captain Thomson, Major-General Du Plat, and the Master of the Household. Mrs. Bigge and Mlle. de Corvi-sart had the honour of being invited to join the Royal circle in the Drawing-room. The Queen walked and drove this morning attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely. The Empress Eugénie, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, visited the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley, having crossed over in her Majesty's yacht Alberta, Captain Thomson. Princess Beatrice was attended by the Hon. Lady Biddulph, Mile. Norcle, and Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Lorwick on Tuesday morning in the yacht Lively. Commander Lecocq immediately went on board for instructions, and on returning to the shore about 400 of the Reserve were drawn up in line extending from Fort Char-lotte to the Custom House Pier. There were many demonstrations of loyalty in honour of the Royal visit. The Duke left the Lively in the company of Captain Lestrange, Captain Prowse, and his secretary Mr. Rickards, landing in one of the yacht's steam launches. On reaching the pier his Royal Highness was received by Captain Lecocq, and was conducted to the north gate of Fort Charlotte. On his way he was again and again cheered. Having arrived at the parade ground, the inspection of the Reserve was immediately commenced, the men being exercised in manual and firing exercises, and subsequently being engaged in company drill. At the clos of the inspection the Duke expressed to Captain Lecocq his high satisfaction with the efficiency of the men. He afterwards examined the armoury and buildings, with the appearance of which he said he was

M. Challemel-Lacour's guests at his dinner party at the French Embassy, on Tuesday included the Italian Ambassador and the Marquise de Menabrea Val Dora, the Spanish Minister, the Swedish Minister, the States Minister, the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone, Earl and Countess Gran-ville, the Earl of Northbrook and Lady Emma Baring, Lord and Lady Arthur Russell, Sin Charles Dilke, General Sir Francis and Lady Seymour, Sir N. de Rothschild, and the perseymour, Sir N. de Rousschild, and the personnel of the Embassy, Count and Countess d'Aunay. Baron Estournelles, Lieutenant-Colonel Descharmes, M. Léon de la Chauvinière, and M. P. Crozier.

The Earl of Northbrook arrived at his

official residence at the Admiralty on Tues-day, accompanied by Lady Emma Baring, from Stratton Park, Hants. The Countess of Courtown and the Ladies

Stopford have arrived in Eccleston-square from Ireland, for the season. The Premier, accompanied by Mrs. Glad-stone and family, arrived at his official residence in Downing-street, from Hawarden

Castle, on Tuesday.

The Right Hon. Hugh and Mr. Childers have removed from Princes-gardens to 117 Sir Gilbert and Lady Clayton East have arrived at 3, Grosvenor-gardens, and will remain till Easter.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE " WORLD.") The marriage of the Earl of Winchilses with Lady Elizabeth Bryant is fixed for Feb 18th. For obvious reasons, the ceremony will be attended by only a few of the neares relations.

Mr. Leigh, eldest son of Mrs. Henry Leigh and nephew of Mr. Gerard Leigh, had a frightful fall from his horse whilst hunting with the Bicester Hounds last week, and broke his collar-bone, fracturing it in three separate places. He is, however, doing well, and hopes to recover in time to have yet some hunting before the season is over.

Lady Emmeline Boyle, eldest daughter of

the Earl and Countess of Cork, is very ill suffering from an attack of intermittent fever Measles of a bad sort are very prevalent just now. Sir John Willoughly is lying dan-gerously ill from an attack of this disease. Lord Lansdowne, who has let his town mansion to Lord Rosebery for a term of years, intends shutting up Bowood, his magnificent family seat in Wiltshire, and living

in a smaller house till times are better, and Irish tenants pay their rents.

Tradespeople and house-agents in town

in fact, no circulation of money.

In one of the eastern counties the office of

sheriff, once so coveted and sought-for an honour, has been refused by no fewer than seven gentlemen in succession, all landed proprietors and on the county roll for sheriff, each pleading poverty and total inability to each pleading poverty and total inability to stand the expense. The Lord-Lieutenant has, it is said, after inconceivable difficulty, met with a gentleman who, having fortunately made his money in commerce, and purchased one of the old landed estates merely as a luxury, will be able to pay his way and come forth at the next assizes in the true glories of the absciously.

forth at the next assizes in the true glories of the shrievalty.

Mr. Chamberlain, Sir C. Dilke, and Mr. Fawcett will be placed in a little difficulty when the vote for the Duke of Albany comes on. It is their intention, I believe, to walk out of the House; and Mr. Gladstone has assured them that they will be forgiven if they absent themselves from the discussion. Whether their Radical supporters will be satisfied with this way of evading an expression of opinion on the subject of Royal grants. sion of opinion on the subject of Royal grants is another question.

Business will soon come to a dead-lock in the country districts of England. Magistrates are scarcer day by day, and in many places it is found impossible to make up a bench, owing to the number of absentees.

It is refreshing to hear of something gay

and cheerful, and more like old times, in rural England. At Henham Hall, the seat of Lord Stradbroke, Christmas has been kept with the hospitality befitting the position of its owner as Lord-Lieutenant of the county. A great ball was given to the servants and employés on the estate the day after Christmas; and since then a succession of enter-tainments for high and low have enlivened the neighbourhood. Some very good private theatricals were performed the second week in January, at which most of the members of the family assisted; and conspicuous amongst the actors were Mr. Gery Milner-Gibson Cul-lum, son of Mr. Milner-Gibson, one of the A.D.C. company, and Mr. Henry Manners, both of whom greatly distinguished them-

The poachers in the Norfolk district hold the Prince of Wales in high esteem, and few of them would willingly ply their vocation on the Sandringham estate. A man, now in durance vile for being concerned in a poaching affray on another property in Norfolk, told the chaplain the other day that he was never in trouble while he lived at Sandring-ham, nor anybody else. "If a man needed a dinner there," he added, "and wanted a rabbit, he had only to go to the house and ask for one. The Prince gave special orders that the men were not to trespass and shoot for themselves, but that his keepers were always to supply a rabbit to any labourer on the estate; and that, if none were in hand, they were immediately to go out and shoot some." This is generous on the Prince's

some." This is generous on the Prince's part, and the poachers fully appreciate it.

The curiosity of the "smart people" to see Mrs. Langtry on the stage has satisfied itself by attendance at her morning debut, and the Haymarket house on Thursday last had merely a usual "first-night" appearance. Among those present who are not generally seen on such occasions were Lord Kilmorey and his bride, Lord Torrington, Lord Barrington, and Colonel Farquharson. The play was the prolonged farce of Ours, with claptrap drummings and fifings, its repartees of rudeness, and its melancholy fun of puddirg-making, and ladies dressed up in soldiers' hats and drilling each other, after the manner of the circus-clown. I was, I confess, disappointed with Mrs. Langry's performance of the heroine. It was not, to my mind, so good as her Miss Hardcastle She has plenty of confidence and of aplomb her appearance as Blanche Haye was very charming; and at the end of the second ac she warmed up into something like feeling her swoon was natural and excellent But throughout the rest of the piece she was terribly hard and unemotional; her gaiety and her pathos equally lack spontaneity; and her voice, though clear and musical, conveys in words only, not in timbre, what she has to express. It should be remembered that she has not yet appeared a dozen times on the stago; and if she does not really possess all the attributes for which many of the critics have given her credit, it is not to be wondered at.

While Londoners were gazing at Mrs. Langtry Mr. J. L. Toole was making mirth for his Royal master at Sandringham. The Prince has always taken great interest in this excellent comedian, and took advantage of the opportunity offered by a little supper after the performance to propose Mr. Toole's health in very graceful terms.

Lord Lurgan was more or less an invalid

even in the days of Master McGrath's glory, and he must have been a thorough sportsman to have gone on coursing through sickness and sore suffering, till his release last week. Master McGrath, an Eclipse among greyhounds, owes his name to the lad who "walked" him as a puppy, and whose intercession, in dit, saved him from a hempen collar; for his first essay was, like many a subsequent celebrity's, a rank failure. He was bred by the late Mr. James Galwey, of Coligan Lodge, Co. Waterford, a fine type of patriarchal sportsmen, whose terriers were as well-known as his "long tails."

It seems that les idees Irlandaises are at last penetrating the official atmosphere of the Castle, and that patronage is flowing in Irish streams, as it should have done long ago. Lord Cowper's household and staff show a very decided preponderance of the Hibernian element. Colonel Dease is Chamberlain, his nephew an A.D.C., both Irish. Colonel Caulfield, the Comptroller, is, of course, a native; and so are Colonel Frank Foster, Master of the Horse, Captain George Howard, Captain McCalmont, and Captain Rowan Hamilton. The last addition to the staff is Major Harry Malone, of the 16th Lancers, a descendant of the well-known commentator of Shakespeare and the famous Judge Malone. In critical times physical strength is by no means a des picable auxiliary; and if force were required, Major Malone could probably supply any amount of the vis major. He will be a very Saul among the A.D.C.'s.

Of the three packs hunting foxes now in Ireland, Kilkenny has perhaps the most precarious existence. The field is chiefly supported by Lord Desart and Sir James Langrishe's studs. The Marquis of Ormonde has given his veto against the sport, though his brother has been seen in a run lately. The Master, Captain Hartopp, keeps up his popularity, and a short time ago he sang at a con-cert at the barracks in Kilkenny; and although his voice is more suited to the hunting-field than the concert-room, he earned loud applause by singing "I fear no foe" and the "Four-leaved Shamrock." Altogether Kilkenny prides itself on being the quietest county in Ireland after Louth and Meath

The Governorship of Ceylon is likely to be vacant shortly, the present occupant of the office having nearly fulfilled the term of his appointment. It is rumoured that the Premier contemplates employing his power of patronage in favour of the member for

The dinner which is to take place at Mr. W. H. Smith's a day before the opening of Parliament is really intended to settle some rariament is really intended to settle some little differences in the Tory party. The Oppo-sition is by no means so "solid" as it looks. There is a moderate section, and there is an extreme section; and there is some risk that when the House comes to deal with the diffiwhen the House comes to deat with the diffi-cult question of procedure, there may be an open split in the party. The moderate Con-servatives are in favour of considerable re-forms in procedure, though not of the cloture; but the more thorough-going members of the

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MGreat-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 26-27, 1882.

M. GAMBETTA'S DEFEAT.

The majority in the French Chamber of Deputies took a stop on Thursday the gravity of which it would be difficult to exaggerate. The debate on the report of the Committee of Thirty-three dealing with the Ministerial proposals for a revision of the Constitution resulted in the defeat of M. Gambetta's Government. It appears that the discussion, though fraught with such momentous issues, was remarkable neither for its length nor for its exciting interest. The truth is that men's minds were made up beforehand, and that the real motives which swayed their conduct were not those which could be displayed most effectively in public controversy. The French are especially prone to trick out their political business

with splendid generalities and large assertions of principle. It is notorious, however, that the present crisis has been precipitated by the clash of personal interests and the movement of intrigue among small groups of politicians. We have frankly criticised M. Gambetta's policy. We have said that the expediency of the course he has chosen to take was from the first more than doubtful. It placed him in open antagonism with forces the strength of which he probably underestimated, and which he might have contrived to nullify by more judicious and cautious tactics. But, granting that M. Gambetta was led into some serious errors of judgment and that the majority of the Chamber have some reason-at any rate, from their own point of view-to complain of his treatment of the Republican party, we have still to ask what has been gained by driving to extremities the statesman on whose Ministerial career the country undoubtedly staked its hopes at the last general election. The form of M. Gambetta's proposals was open to various and damaging criticism, and the substance was plainly distasteful to the greater number of the Deputies whether they call themselves Republicans or not. Yet it is hard to believe that the electors who voted for Gambettist candidates last summer have been moved to change their allegiance by the attacks in the Chamber or in the Press upon the scheme of revision. The majority who detest scrutin de liste, and who voted against M. Gambetta on Thursday for this reason, are nevertheless unable to denounce the principle of the measure they oppose. They know that if they had come forward in the constituencies last year-and they may shrewdly suspect that if they were to come forward now-as opponents of M. Gambetta and of scrutin de liste, they would have little better chance of election than the Legitimist or Bonapartist candidates. The battle was fought upon the narrow and almost trivial question whether or not the proposed declaration that the scrutin de liste should be adopted as one of the articles of the Constitution was opportune. This was the real issue. All the rest of the amendments and arguments on both sides was so much surplusage. No one doubted, or pretended to doubt, that if M. Gambetta had withdrawn his demand for scrutin de liste he would have been able to rally a majority around him upon all the other points that were formally in dispute. He held his ground with determination and met his fate boldly. If M. Gambetta is found to retain the support of the country while losing that of the Chamber he is not the man to let himself be thrust out of politics. There are questions both of internal and of external policy which, if he pleases, he can handle so as to disquiet any Ministry now called to office, and we cannot look with gratification on the possibility that he may convulse France and perturb French policy in his determination to show that he has not been extinguished by the unstable alliances of the lobbies. Although M. Gambetta and his colleagues have fallen

upon this point. The Standard says :- The world at large, brushing aside all subordinate arguments, will look upon the defeat of M. Gambetta not only as richly deserved, but as one which it is difficult to doubt that he went deliberately out of his way to court. There are many persons who believe that he adopted the perverse course which has led to his overthrow from malice prepense, and through a conviction that it would minister to his ultimate advantage to divest himself for the present of the worry and responsibilities of office. The suspicion is intelligible, and may be well-founded. Ministers to the Crown, there can be no ments were smashed together, the passengers

before they had practically entered upon

their work, they have done something to

justify their pretensions by producing a

list of measures which they would have

introduced in time had been allowed them.

It may be answered that this is their own

fault, for, whatever opinion we may have

of the effect of what has happened, we

cannot doubt that M. Gambetta precipi-

tated the crisis without any urgent reason.

There is one thing, at all events, which

the defeated Ministry have done at the

last moment that will be welcomed here.

The negotiations for the renewal of the

Commercial Treaty, which have been

lately conducted between the French Go-

vernment and Lord Lyons, have been put

in train, it is confidently hoped, for a set-

tlement. The change of Ministry must

involve delay, but not, we trust, any breach in the continuity of French policy

TERMS: PARIS—A single journal, 8 sous; a week, 2fr. 50c.; a fortnight, 5fr.; one month, 10fr.; three months, 28fr. dispute, it is perhaps better to fall back upon a simpler and more natural explanation, and to believe that the real cause of the downfall of M. Gambetta was his resolve to master the Chamber, and the resolve of the Chamber not to be mastered. Not the least eloquent nor the least telling portion of his speech was that in which he repudiated the imputation that he seeks to become Dictator of France. Were he, said he, to pursue such an end, he would only make himself a common laughingstock. But surely M. Gambetta somewhat misapprehended the nature of the charge that serious politicians direct against him. None but Parliamentary fanatics suppose that M. Gambetta aspires to become Dictator of France in the sense that General Bonaparte or Louis Napoleon became Dictators; that he meditates dissolving the Chamber by force, sending the Representatives of the people to Mazas, and ruling with the help of subservient bayonets. But there is a form of of Dictatorship which is not the less real because it is not ostensible and ostentatious. There is the Dictatorship of domineering natures-of natures that cannot tolerate men of marked ability or independent character in the same Cabinet with themselves, and whose instinct of personal ascendency is to engage, at the earliest possible moment, in a duel to the death with the Legislature which they are supposed as much to follow as to lead. What, in our opinion, has wrecked M. Gambetta and his Ministry is his inherent and ineradicable passion for supreme power. No doubt he would exercise this only by the weapons of the brain and tongue, by argument, by eloquence, by persistent will, by superior capacity. But men resent this sort of despotism even more, perhaps, than they resent cruder forms of tyranny. The man who is always right, and who must always have his own way, ends by becoming intolerable; and it is no exaggeration to say that, in the space of a few months-practically speaking, a few weeks-M. Gambetta has made himself intolerable to the Chamber that deliberately lifted him, we might almost say thrust him, into power. The Daily News observes :- The fore-

most statesman of France opens now a new chapter of his political life. M. Gambetta sitting in the body of the House as Deputy for Belleville will be a very different person from M. Gambetta expectantly and indolently lolling in the President's chair, or from M. Gambetta on the front Ministerial Bench. Recent English Parliamentary annals scarcely afford a parallel to the position which he will occupy. Pitt, under the Administration of Mr. Addington, is the nearest approach to it that our history affords. Lord John Russell watching to overturn Lord Palmerston, and Lord Palmerston lying in wait for opportunities to throw out Lord John Russell, present the nearest very recent resemblances to the posture of affairs in the French Chamber, with M. Gambetta as a private member under a Ministry of M. de Freycinet, M. Léon Say, or M. Jules Ferry. But neither Lord John Russell nor Lord Palmerston possessed during the period of their mutual rivalry anything like the ascendency over any section of the Liberal party which M. Gambetta, notwithstanding the recent vote, has, or is likely soon to re-acquire, over probably a majority of the Republicans in the Chamber of Deputies. The authority is not perhaps altogether that of confidence or of affection. It is based on something like personal fear of the man and respect for his towering superiority over any actual or, so far as we can see at present, possible rival. M. Gambetta will, it is said, bring forward as a private member the great schemes of reform which he enumerated on Thursday, and which are destined to show that if he was not at the head of the much-rumoured Grand Ministry, he was yet a great Minister. They will be paraded before the Chamber and before France in order that the world may see what they have lost in M. Gambetta's overthrow. The position is difficult to the verge of impossibility. Disorganization in the Chamber will probably be followed by the recall of M. Gambetta to power, and by a penal dissolution, or possibly by the abject submission of the Deputies in February or March to the proposals which they have rejected in January.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S EXPLANATIONS The dramatic character of the scene in the German Parliament the other day tends to obscure the real issue. It has been supposed that Prince Bismarck wished to threaten and overawe the Reichstag, but an explosion of violent anger can hardly be regarded as an evidence of a settled purpose. In reality the tone of the Chancellor's speech seems to show that the situation is in some respects considerably less serious than the Liberals believed after the issue of the now famous Rescript. They understood that, in the opinion of the King, every Government official in Prussia was bound to support any proposals which he might choose to set forth through his Ministers. Prince Bismarck, however, explained that officials of all ranks are free to vote as they please; it is only expected that they will not agitate against a policy which has received the royal sanction. To Englishmen it may appear hard that even this restriction should be placed on the liberty of a large and important class; but it is worth while to recall the fact that it is not so very long since precisely the same demands were made in this country. When Burns expressed sympathy with the revolutionary party in France, the Excise Board made close inquiry into his conduct; and he was at one time on the point of being dismissed from the public service. The Board have often been condemned for their interference; but the latest biographer of Burns, Mr. Shairp, urges in their defence that "to have allowed any of their subordinates to set themselves up by word or deed in opposition to the Ministry," would have been " inconsistent with the ideas of the time as to official duty." Some Prussian officials would, no doubt, be pleased to have perfect political liberty; but as long as their votes are free, the majority of them are not likely to complain much of the minor grievance. Few members of the official class would care in any case to associate themselves with a violent agitation, at least on the Liberal side. With regard to Prince Bismarck's interpretation of the relations of

doubt as to its general soundness. A Minister has never been dismissed from office in Prussia merely because Parliament has refused to accept his measures. He is responsible to the Sovereign alone, and while he retains the Sovereign's confidence nothing that his opponents can do, even if they form a large majority in Parliament, can imperil his position. This is not only the theory of the Constitution, but it may be questioned whether any ether system of government would be practicable in the present condition of parties in Prussia and Germany. Ministerial responsibility in the English sense implies that parties are fairly well defined, and that a tolerably stable majority will give its support, at least for a time, to any Cabinet which may be formed. If this anticipation were not well founded, there could not be even an approach to continuity in the political life of the country. Ministers would be compelled to carry on incessant intrigue, and serious legislation would be rendered impossible. Now, neither in Prussia nor in the German Empire is there any political party strong enough to maintain a Government in power. At the last general election for the Reichstag the Liberals were unexpectedly successful: but if an Imperial Ministry of Liberal sympathies were appointed it would be removed from office on the first occasion on which it proposed an important subject for discussion. The Liberals do not nearly equal all other parties combined; and they themselves are united only in opposition to a particular set of principles. Clericals and the Conservatives, either separately or acting together, would be quite as powerless as the Liberals to uphold a Government; and the same may be said of any coalition of parties which has ever been seriously suggested. Even, therefore, if the Sovereign were willing to give up the rights conferred on him by the Constitution, he could not afford to do so : the change would mean a constant succession of Cabinets, each more feeble than the last, and absolutism in one form or another would become inevitable .-St. James's Gazette.

THE STATE OF THE MONEY MARKET.

Whatever may be before speculators in stocks and shares, we may be quite sure that no reason can arise from any alarm by bona fide investors. If a panic comes, the wise thing will be for every man who can afford to do so to hold on :-

It is when the outside public rush to sell out the investments the returns on which constitute their means of living that a really formidable crisis is produced, and that great public inconvenience and great private suffer-ing result. A mere Stock Exchange panic ought only to hurt speculators, or men of business who have too heavily trusted them. It is quite possible that there may be a general fall in the price of securities, and, indeed, there has already been in a good many cases a considerable reaction from very high prices touched last year. The improvement of business will call for the employment of more capital, and money which now seeks investment in stock and shares will be put into trade. A good many people, moreover, may find themselves obliged to part with sound securities to raise money to pay the calls on the vast multitude of new companies which have come into being in the last year. But the increase of trade is likely to augment the real value of railway stocks and of other investments which are affected by the bulk and activity of our commercial transactions, and hence even their present high prices may be sustained although the conditions which have abnormally forced them up are withdrawn. At present it is almost impossible to invest money to bring more than about three-and-ahalf per cent. A slight decrease in the market price of sound securities would not in any way indicate that the revenue yielded by them to permanent investors was likely to diminish—the prospect at this moment is rather of increase than of decrease-but would only give such investors a chance of placing their investments on somewhat better terms. Daily News.

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT HORNSEY.

Further inquiry into the cause and nature of the collision between the two passenger trains of the Great Northern Railway on Wednesday evening fully confirms the accounts already given. The thick fog having cleared away in the afternoon bore down again on Hornsey soon after five o'clock in a form so appalling that one of the men employed at the station ran and informed his chief that black clouds were rolling up from Tottenham just as if the world was coming to an end. The fog signalmen were sent for, but having so recently left duty they could hardly appear again on the instant. A passenger who was in the stationary train says that he heard the guard whistle twice, as a signal to start, but that the train did not at the moment move. He and his companions, all working men, filling a smoking carriage, called out jocularly, "All right, go on, we are all ready." The next instant they telt a thundering blow on the carriage, succeeded by thick darkness, followed by a feeling of being first pitched up and down, and then pushed along on broken pieces of wood. He found himself in another moment prone on the platform without the least idea how he got there. His first impulse was to call for his mate. Scores of similar crtes arose, mixed with shricks, wails, and groans. Hundreds of figures emerged from the carriages of the two trains, and ran hither and thither like great black phantoms in the thick fog, calling for their friends, and demanding help. While there can be no reasonable doubt that every effort would be and was used on the part of the railway company to give efficient aid, it is stated as a fact that one of the sufferers only reached the hospital at ten o'clock, the collision having occurred at half-past five, and that he wa conveyed from Kings-cross in a van which jolted horribly and put him to severe pain. There is on the other hand every reason to believe that the small staff at the Hornsey station acted with promptitude and effect. mediately on the occurrence the station-master made it his first business to block both up and down lines by seeing that the danger signal was put on at Finsbury-park, a mile and a half south, and at Wood-green, a mile north. The cloud of fog, it seems, was very local, and that both these stations were comparatively clear. Express trains were due on both up and down lines.

The guard of the advancing train, it seems

after it entered the fog, was unable to see Jany regular signal. The first light he beheld was one put on at the end of the platform after the mist had thickened. The ughbeleiving this light to be the distant signal of Hornsey, instead of being, as it was, within sixty yards of another train, the guard put on his vacuum brake, and brought pressure to bear in checking the train. There is, however, a slight incline towards the north, and even with the brake on and without steam, the momentum of the heavily-laden train must have given a rate of something like eight miles an hour at the moment the blow was struck. The effect seems to have been first to jerk upwards, and then to "telescope" the doomed third-class carriage. The roof flew off, the compart-

being sandwiched between them. In the two fatal cases death appears to have been instantaneous. The injured, as is usual in railway accidents, have suffered most severely by fractured legs, chiefly below the knee, due, no doubt, to the jamming together of the edges of opposite seats when the carriage was broken up. Of the eleven cases at the Metropolitan Free Hospital, five have sustained fractures of the legs, one a scalp wound and fracture of the shoulder, another dislocation of the hip, another injury to the back, and another a slight concussion of the spine. The patients are all doing fairly well; but in the case of Mary Ann Chowles, sixty years of age, who has sustained compound fracture of the right leg and right thigh, and a fracture of the left leg, the chances of recovery are all but hopeless. Mrs. Chowles was accompanied by her granddaughter Dolly, a favourite girl of 16, who since the death of her mother had lived with her grandfather and grandmother at Wood-green. This girl was killed by the side of her relative. Her father, who carries on business as a French polisher in London, did not receive intelligence of her death that night, nor did he, on seeing on the news placards the announcement of a railway acci-dent, imagine that it so nearly concerned himself. His sister was expected to accompany her mother home, but had fortunately remained in London. In addition to the eleven persons under treatment at the hospitals, there are ten or twelve more who were able to reach their homes at Woodgreen, but are now under medical care, one suffering from concussion of the brain

A correspondent who was in the Enfield train gives the following account of the colli-sion: —Upon looking out of the carriage-window at Hornsey, I was surprised to see the fog. which had previously cleared, exceed-ingly dense—so dense, in fact, that the up-platform lamps could scarcely be discerned from the down-line, where we were. I heard the guard blow his whistle for the driver to steam on towards Wood-green, but the train did not move. Again the guard blew his whistle, this time impatiently (apparently) but the train still remained stationary, and I concluded either that the driver either could not see the signals or that they were against him. When we had thus waited at Hornsey platform about two or three minutes I remembered that a Barnet train was due behind us, and I put down the window-sash and lis-tened, intending to leave the train if I heard another on the line in our rear. I did not hear such a train, being slightly deaf, but in about two more minutes I felt a heavy thud behind, which threw us all (there were five in my compartment, including myself) bumping upon each other and upon the sides of the carriage, and my hat was crushed upon my head as flat as an opera-hat—I fear through coming into collision with the face of a fellow passenger. When all seemed over two or three gentlemen began to call out in fear, but I remarked that the mischief was done, and that they had better get out and go to the rear to render necessary help. This I did myself, and soon saw the deplorable nature of the accident. The ends and partitions of one carriage appear to have been crushed into close contact, the usual spaces of the compartments between having disappeared, and to have fallen into a nearly horizontal position with several men wedged between them. These people were calling for help and lights, and one said his leg was carriages at once commenced to render assistance, and I, seeing a porter with a red light, begged him to go up the line to stop other trains, as I knew another was nearly due and might have left Finsbury Park. I believe I never was in a denser fog.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS. OSBORNE, THURSDAY.

The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely and the Hon. Victoria Baillie. The Queer and Princess Beatrice walked and drove this morning with the Empress Eugénie. The Judge Advocate General had an audience of her Majesty yesterday. The Hon. Lady and Miss Biddulph had the honour of dining with the Queen yesterday.

The Duke of Portland arrived in Grosvenorplace on Thursday from Melton Mowbray. The Earl of Airlie, who came from India expressly to attend his father's funeral, will leave on his return to India at the end of the ensuing month, to resume his duties with the 10th Hussars.

Major the Hon. Thomas O'Grady, last surviving son of Standish first Viscount Guillamore, by his wife, Katherine, second daughter of Mr. John Thomas Walker, of Castletown county Limerick, died on the 22d inst. He married in January, 1856, Charlotte Isabel Sophia, daughter of the late Mr. F. L. Ball. The late major, who formerly served in the 74th Highlanders, retired from the army in

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

SUPPOSED NEW CONSPIRACY. A Dublin correspondent wrote on Thursday night:—The absence of Mr. Forster from yesterday's Cabinet Council may be accounted for by the fact that Major Clifford Lloyd, the Special Resident Magistrate for the counties of Clare, Limerick, and Cork, has brought to the knowledge of the authorities at the Castle the existence of a widespread and dangerous conspiracy in his district. Major Lloyd, who is one of the most active magistrates in Ireland, has been able to discover the fullest particulars as to the membership, funds, and objects of this organisation. The news is regarded as very serious at the Castle. An informer has revealed all the plans of this secret association. The sudden orders to the 53d Regiment to come to Ireland may have been caused by the information forwarded to the Executive from Limerick and Clare. There is no doubt that money has been distributed for the purpose of the conspiracy, and that arms to a considerable extent have

been smuggled into the country.

An inquest was held to-day, before Mr. Coroner O'Donnell, on the remains of the man John Lennane, who was shot on Tuesday evening when sitting by the fireside in his son's house at Breaffa. The evidence was of a formal character, and no aid to the apprehension of the criminals was given. The quiry was adjourned. Lennane had been warned repeatedly to quit his employment, and such was the feeling with which this murder was regarded in the district that up to five o'clock last evening no coffin would be supplied for the remains, till his son had to appeal to the parish priest to use his influ-

nce to get one.

Mr. John Moyle Mahony, supposed to be a Land League organiser, was arrested in Sackville-street to-day under the Coercion Act and lodged in gaol. Mr. Mahony is a native of Cork, where he was employed as a clerk, but latterly he has come to reside in Dublin, and has been travelling about the provinces at intervals. His lodgings in Brunswick-street were a fortnight ago searched for documents. He went to Naas last week to visit the suspects confined in the gaol there. A fair was being held in the town that day, and in the course of the afternoon it was found that a large number of copies of the "No Rent" manifesto had been distributed amongst the farmers in the market When apprehended to-day, Mr. Mahony had, it is stated, in his possession some copies of the manifesto, and also blank cards of membership of the Prisoner's Sustentation Asso-

Messrs. M'Gough and Co., solicitors, have, on behalf of Mrs. Moloney and other members of the Ladies' Land League, addressed a letter to the heads of the Metropolitan Police Department, demanding the authority on which they have been seizing United Ireland,

and threatening that if they are not within six days supplied with that information a civil action will be commenced. Only a few days since it was announced publicly by counsel for the Crown that the Lord Lieutenant had directed the seizure of that paper. To-day constables in several parts of the city took up copies of the paper which were being sold by vendors through the streets. A consignment of 250 copies of the *Irish World* was taken possession of by the police on its arrival at the North Wall from Liverpool this morning. The paper is dated at New York, January 21, and contains exciting articles with reference to Ireland.

There have been several cases of garroting in Dublin during the past week. Respectable persons have been knocked down and their watches torn from them. These attacks are, as a rule, made about eight o'clock at night when there are large numbers of people in the streets, and the garroters select the busiest thoroughfares for their operations.

Letters received in London from the relatives of Mr. John Dillon, M.P., state that his illness has now taken a form which may result fatally at any moment. Some weeks ago his family offered to remove him to the South of France, and steps were taken with this view, but now Mr. Dillon absolutely refuses to make any condition whatever, the Irish authorities having declined to meet the wishes of his friends in this respect.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS .- A BUFFER CARRIAGE.

A correspondent writes to the Daily Telegraph:—Railway travellers must make up their minds for collisions—at any rate, until the millenium arrives. The frailty of human nature, or its perverseness, or the thousand and one accidents that moving vehicles are liable to, are too much for the block system, interlocking, and telegraph signalling, and all the other preventive apparatus that science and mechanical skill have yet devised. This being so, is it not worth while considering if something more cannot be done to make the inevitable collision less fatal in its effects when it does occur ? Permit me, first of all. to point out that a large proportion of railway collisions resemble that which occurred at Hornsey on Wednesday evening, the essential elements of which are a train running at considerable speed into one standing still. Such accidents take, of course, many other shapes, but this is the commonest form of all, and what is the most invariable consequence? That those in the last carriage receive the whole force of the concussion, are killed outright or terribly maimed and bruised, while in the next carriage there are wounds and bruises only, and these not nearly so serious; while in the next and next there are only severe shakings and joltings. Indeed, nothing is more marvellous in the very worst railway collisions than the comparative immunity of passengers removed a few compartments from those that first receive the undiminished shock. The natural philosophy of the sub-ject is perhaps not difficult to understand, but the fact is surely instructive that the amount of peril diminishes in a large geometrical ratio as distance from the place of impact increases. Probably the chance of being killed or injured in the last carriage but one is not the tenth part of what it is in the last. At Hornsey the former vehicle and its occupants came out of the collision scatheless, and the like result has been seen in scores of instances, several that might be mentioned having occurred quite recently. It is due no doubt to the powerful buffers between the carriages, and to the fact that the energy of the impact is largely spent in rending, tear-ing, and it may be lifting the wooden and iron structure which is the first to suffer. Time is an infinitely important consideration iu these matters, and for every fraction of a second that the shock is parried by breaking springs and splintering woodwork lives and limbs are being saved. This being so, does it not seem that the last carriage of every train should be mainly or exclusively a buffer carriage, and should not carry passengers? Would it not, indeed, be worth the while of railway companies to construct a carriage specially for the purpose of bearing as exclusively as possible the brunt of a mishap? It might be a guard's van, carrying the break apparatus, and having one or two padded compartments, which experiment and the skill of railway engineers could easily design in such fashion that it would receive the maximum of the blow and pass on the minimum concussion to the rest of the train. There is no question that such an arrangement would save lives, just as improved breaks and block signals do: but would it pay? As against fatal collisions, I think it would. Disasters of this kind are terribly expensive, and rightly so. The best safeguard the public possess in this matter is to make collisions so costly that even the richest of the iron road corporations cannot afford to risk them. We must face the fact that, when all has been done, collisions will happen, and clearly it will prove an economy in the end to adopt every measure that will reduce their deadly effects to the smallest compass. If the companies will not take simple tions like this, which their own daily and dear-bought experience recommends, then not only will they have to pay, but it will be a question for the Legislature to consider whether it will allow passengers to be conveyed in the last carriage and exposed to such

BRANDING AN APPRENTICE. In the Queen's Bench Division on Wednesday, the case of "Devenish v. Tubb and Maunders" was concluded. It was an action brought by the plaintiff to recover damages whom he was apprenticed, and Dr. Maunders, for an assault by branding him on several parts of his body with a hot poker after he had been discovered under the bed of the defendant Tubb's daughter, his allegation being that he had gone into the room for a light as his own lamp had gone out, and had hidden himself under the bed as he was undressed and heard persons coming upstairs. Mr. Lyon summed up the evidence for the defendant Tubb, and Mr. Rowlands for the defendant Maunders. Mr. Harrison replied for the plaintiff on the whole case. Denman then summed up. Having referred to the law as bearing on that branch of the case which related to the collateral issue of the alleged violation of the deed of apprenticeship by the defendant Tubb in dis-missing the plaintiff from his employment, in satisfaction of which claim is. had been paid into Court, his Lordship said that as regarded Dr. Maunders there must be a verdict against him for an assault, but in awarding the damages the jury must take into account not only the conduct of the defendant but that of the plaintiff himself. If they found that the defendant Tubb had committed an assault by dragging the plaintiff across the room, they must consider the feelings of a father on finding him under his daughter's bed, and would have to say whether he had done more than the circumstances justified, for it so a plea of justification was made out. As to the "touching up," as it was called, of the plaintiff with the poker, if Tubb took any active part in it it would be one thing, but if he did no more than not preventing it that would be another thing. Assuming that Tubb was not justified in dismissing the plaintiff, they would say what damages the plaintiff had suffered. Secondly, they would say if Tubb was justified in dismissing the plaintiff under all the circumstances of the case. Thirdly, was Tubb guilty of an aggravated assault on the plaintiff, and, if so, to what damages was the plaintiff entitled for that. Then, was Maunders guilty of an assault, for which no justification was pleaded, and on this point he would say that they would be finding a verdict against evidence if they found Maunders had been guilty of no said he had made the statement in the hope

through the more salient points of the evidence on both sides. He said that when they came to consider the question of damages, they must say whether the plaintiff was in Miss Tubb's room for a nasty and improper-he would not say an immoral—purpose, or had told the truth when he said he only went there for a light. With regard to the burning, the evidence of the plaintiff was diametrically opposed to that of the publican, McLoughlin, who was an unbiassed witness the two who was an unbiassed witness, the two doctors, and Tubb himself. The case of Tubb having been a party to the administration of the poker was totally different from that of Maunders. If any serious thing was done to a man with a poker, hot or not, it was a very wrong thing for a doctor or any person to do, but they might take it into consideration what was the conduct of the plaintiff, and give the doctor the benefit of that. If he took a red-hot poker and inflicted serious injuries then a Jury should not be too tender in giving damages, but on this point they must regard the medical evidence, and say whether the burns were vigorously inflicted by a red-hot poker or by a poker just sufficiently heated to get this young man out of the place. The case as against Dr. Maunders in a great measure, if not altogether, turned on the view which the Jury might take on this point, on which there had been a considerable conflict of medical testimony. If they thought the doctor applied a hot poker to him once only there must be a verdict for something; but if they thought he had been seriously injured the damages should be very substantial indeed. The Jury, after an absence of fifty-five minutes returned into Court, finding that Tubb was justified in dismissing the plaintiff, or otherwise they would have given damages of £25 against him on that issue; and further that he had not been guilty of an aggravated assault under the cir-cumstances. With regard to Dr. Maunders, they found he had been guilty of an assault, and assessed the damages against him at £80. Mr. Corrie Grant applied on behalf of Dr. Maunders for a stay of execution, which his Lordship said he would grant until after the circuit, though he was clearly of opinion that the verdict against him was right. The Foreman of the Jury, in answer right. The Foreman of the Jury, in answer to another question by the learned Judge, said they were of opinion that the plaintiff did not go into Miss Tubb's room with any immoral purpose, on which his Lordship said that gave the plaintiff a verdict of £25 on this count, but as the plaintiff had behaved exceedingly wrong in remaining silent after his conduct, so he would not give him the costs on this part of their case. He would costs on this part of their case. He would, however, give costs as against Maunders.

A PAUPER'S BODY .- The Sheffield Board of Guardians held a protracted inquiry into a most remarkable case on Wednesday. A man named John Wood, formerly a draper in easy circumstances in Sheffield, has for several years been in difficulty and latterly lived with his wife in lodgings in Weststreet. On Saturday Wood became exceedingly ill and his life was despaired of His ingly ill and his life was despaired of. His landlady, who had three other lodgers, was afraid that if Wood died in her house the other three lodgers might leave. She there-fore requested Mrs. Wood to remove her dying husband to the workhouse. A cab was procured and the poor fellow, accompanied by his wife, was driven to the workhouse, a distance of over two miles. There Wood only survived five minutes after being put in The same evening the widow arranged to have her husband buried on Tuesday. On that day she attended with several relatives from Manchester, who were anxious to see the corpse. Mrs. Wood accordingly asked that the body might be shown to them. She was informed by those in charge of the Union dead-house that the coffin was screwed up. At her request, a coffin, bearing her husband's initials on a label, was opened, when it was found that the corpse was that of a man of 75, while her husband was only 36. The body was afterwards identified as that of an aged pauper named Ellis. The attention of the Governor, Mr. Hastie, having been called to the matter, he made inquiry and it was discovered that Wood's body had been taken to the medical school in Surreystreet, over two miles away. A cab was procured and the body brought back. The widow insisted before the guardians on Wednesday that the body bore marks of the operator's knife upon the neck, which was swollen level with the chin, and stated that there was blood upon the shirt. A neighbour added that there were nine lancet marks on the neck. Mr. Hostie, the governor, said he had been assured by the medical men that nothing had been done to the body, but the widow and her friends stubbornly adhered to their statement. It appears that the bodies, when taken into the dead-house at the workhouse, are labelled with the initials of the dead persons. There are usually four assistants in charge. One of these assistants was dismissed on Saturday by the governor and before he left, according to the statement of the governor, tampered with the labels and thus mixed up the bodies out of spite at his removal. The workhouse authorities adourned the case for a weekto admit of the fullest investigation.

MR. WILLIAM CHAMBERS .- Taking the apportunity of the fiftieth anniversary of the first issue of Chambers's Journal, Mr. William Chambers has contributed to the current number of that well-known periodical a paper of reminiscences of considerable interest in relation to the progress of cheap publications, wifh which the name of the well-known firm of W. R. Chambers is so closely associated. Mr. Chambers's memories extend back to a period that has long been historical. He recollects, he tells us, distinctly the arrival of the news of the battle of Trafalgar in October, 1805, though he was at that time only five years of age. Among the earliest of his literary impressions are the excitement and mystery attending upon the publication of "Waverley" in 1814, and the brilliant first appearance of the Scotsman newspaper, scarcely two years later. The venerable writer's narrative forms a pleasant supplementary chapter to his memoir of his brother, Robert Chambers, with which, as will be re-membered, some autobiographic writing by the author was associated, and it cannot fail to be read with pleasure by all who are in-terested in the literary history of the last

sixty years or more. SAMUEL CLOWES, THE RELEASED FARMER .-At the Leek Board of Guardians, on Wednesday, the relieving officer reported that the husband of Mrs. Clowes, of Biddulph Moor, who for about sixteen months had been re-ceiving relief to the extent of 6s. per week consequent upon her husband's conviction of younding Isaac Brooks, had been released by the Home Secretary, and had returned home.

—The Chairman (Mr. H. L. Johnson) said, under the circumstances, he had no alternative but to stop the relief. No medical order had been sent in, although the man was in a weak state. He thought a detailed statement of the whole circumstances ought to be sent to the Home Secretary in order that he might be the better able to estimate the amount of compensation to which Clowes was entitled, and the better able to do justice to the man .-Mr. Swain said the suggestion of the chair-man was an admirable one, and would not only relieve the feelings of the guardians but only relieve the leading of the guarding size great satisfaction all over the country. No greater miscarriage of justice had occurred in his lifetime, and when they thought of the suffering, poverty, and disgrace to which Johnson and Clowes and their wives and families had been subjected, they would confess that the amount of compensation could not be measured in money. They had been reduced from comparative affluence to absoreduced from comparative affluence to absolute pauperism, the stigma of which would remain, no matter what sum Sir William

TERMS: PARIS—A single journal, 8 sous; a week, 2fr. 50c.; a fortnight, 5fr.; one month, 10fr.; three months, 28fr.

But, seeing that it is singularly dishonouring to M. Gambetta, and can by no possibility be established as a fact beyond

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 26-27, 1882.

M. GAMBETTA'S DEFEAT.

The majority in the French Chamber of Deputies took a step on Thursday the gravity of which it would be difficult to exaggerate. The debate on the report of the Committee of Thirty-three dealing with the Ministerial proposals for a revision of the Constitution resulted in the defeat of M. Gambetta's Government. It. appears that the discussion, though fraught with such momentous issues, was remarkable neither for its length nor for its exciting interest. The truth is that men's minds were made up beforehand, and that the real motives which swayed their conduct were not those which could be displayed most effectively in public controversy. The French are especially prone to trick out their political business with splendid generalities and large assertions of principle. It is notorious, however, that the present crisis has been precipitated by the clash of personal in-terests and the movement of intrigue among small groups of politicians. We have frankly criticised M. Gambetta's policy. We have said that the expediency of the course he has chosen to take was from placed him in open antagonism with forces the strength of which he probably underestimated, and which he might have con-

the first more than doubtful. trived to nullify by more judicious and cautious tactics. But, granting that M. Gambetta was led into some serious errors of judgment and that the majority of the Chamber have some reason-at any rate, from their own point of view-to complain of his treatment of the Republican party, we have still to ask what has been gained by driving to extremities the statesman on whose Ministerial career the country undoubtedly staked its hopes at the last general election. The form of M. Gambetta's proposals was open to various and damaging criticism, and the substance was plainly distasteful to the greater number of the Deputies whether they call themselves Republicans or not. Yet it is hard to believe that the electors who voted for Gambettist candidates last summer have been moved to change their allegiance by the attacks in the Chamber or in the Press upon the scheme of revision. The majority who detest scrutin de liste, and who voted against M. Gambetta on Thursday for this reason, are nevertheless unable to denounce the principle of the measure they oppose. They know that if they had come forward in the constituencies last year-and they may shrewdly suspect that if they were to come forward now-as opponents of M. Gambetta and of scrutin de liste, they would have little better chance of election than the Legitimist or Bonapartist candidates. The battle was fought upon the narrow and almost trivial question whether or not the proposed declaration that the scrutin de liste should be adopted as one of the articles. of the Constitution was opportune. This was the real issue. All the rest of the amendments and arguments on both sides was so much surplusage. No one doubted, or pretended to doubt, that if M. Gambetta had withdrawn his demand for scrutin de liste he would have been able to rally a majority around him upon all the other points that were formally in dispute. He held his ground with determination and met his fate boldly. If M. Gambetta is found to retain the support of the country while losing that of the Chamber he i not the man to let himself be thrust out o politics. There are questions both of internal and of external policy which, it he pleases, he can handle so as to disquiet any Ministry now called to office, and we cannot look with gratification on the possibility that he may convulse France and perturb French policy in his determination to show that he has not been extinguished by the unstable

upon this point .- Times. The Standard says :- The world at large brushing aside all subordinate arguments, will look upon the defeat of M. Gambetta not only as richly deserved, but as one which it is difficult to doubt that he went deliberately out of his way to court. There are many persons who believe that he adopted the perverse course which has led to his overthrow from malice prepense and through a conviction that it would minister to his ultimate advantage to divest himself for the present of the worry and responsibilities of office. The suspicion is intelligible, and may be well-founded. Ministers to the Crown, there can be no ments were smached together, the passengers

alliances of the lobbies. Although M.

Gambetta and his colleagues have fallen

before they had practically entered upon

their work, they have done something to

justify their pretensions by producing a

list of measures which they would have

introduced in time had been allowed them.

It may be answered that this is their own

fault, for, whatever opinion we may have

of the effect of what has happened, we

cannot doubt that M. Gambetta precipi-

tated the crisis without any urgent reason.

There is one thing, at all events, which

the defeated Ministry have done at the

last moment that will be welcomed here

The negotiations for the renewal of the

Commercial Treaty, which have been

lately conducted between the French Go-

vernment and Lord Lyons, have been put

in train, it is confidently hoped, for a set-

tlement. The change of Ministry must

involve delay, but not, we trust, any

breach in the continuity of French policy

ing to M. Gambetta, and can by no pos-sibility be established as a fact beyond dispute, it is perhaps better to fall back upon a simpler and more natural explanation, and to believe that the real cause of the downfall of M. Gambetta was his resolve to master the Chamber, and the resolve of the Chamber not to be mastered. Not the least eloquent nor the least telling portion of his speech was that in which he repudiated the imputation that he seeks to become Dictator of France. Were he. said he, to pursue such an end, he would only make himself a common laughingstock. But surely M. Gambetta somewhat misapprehended the nature of the charge that serious politicians direct against him. None but Parliamentary fanatics suppose that M. Gambetta aspires to become Dictator of France in the sense that General Bonaparte or Louis Napoleon became Dictators; that he meditates dissolving the Chamber by force, sending the Representatives of the people to Mazas, and ruling with the help of subservient bayonets. But there is a form of of Dictatorship which is not the less real because it is not ostensible and ostentatious. There is the Dictatorship of domineering natures-of natures that cannot tolerate men of marked ability or independent character in the same Cabinet with themselves, and whose instinct of personal ascendency is to engage, at the earliest possible moment, in a duel to the death with the Legislature which they are supposed as much to follow as to lead. What, in our opinion, has wrecked M. Gambetta and his Ministry is his inherent and ineradicable passion for supreme power. No doubt he would exercise this only by the weapons of the brain and tongue, by argument, by eloquence, by persistent will, by superior capacity. But men resent this sort of despotism even more, perhaps, than they resent cruder forms of tyranny. The man who is always right, and who must always have his own way, ends by becoming intolerable; and it is no exaggeration to say that, in the space of a few months-practically speaking, a few weeks-M. Gambetta has made himself intolerable to the Chamber that deliberately lifted him, we might almost say thrust him, into power.

The Daily News observes :- The foremost statesman of France opens now a new chapter of his political life. M. Gambetta sitting in the body of the House as Deputy for Belleville will be a very different person from M. Gambetta expectantly and indolently lolling in the President's chair, or from M. Gambetta on the front Ministerial Bench. Recent English Parliamentary annals scarcely afford a parallel to the position which he will occupy. Pitt, under the Administration of Mr. Addington, is the nearest approach to it that our history affords. Lord John Russell watching to overturn Lord Pal-merston, and Lord Palmerston lying in wait for opportunities to throw out Lord John Russell, present the nearest very recent resemblances to the posture of affairs in the French Chamber, with M. Gambetta as a private member under a Ministry of M. de Freycinet, M. Léon Say, or M. Jules Ferry. But neither Lord John Russell nor Lord Palmerston possessed during the period of their mutual rivalry anything like the ascendency over any section of the Liberal party which M. Gambetta, notwithstanding the recent vote. has, or is likely soon to re-acquire, over probably a majority of the Republicans in the Chamber of Deputies. The authority is not perhaps altogether that of confidence or of affection. It is based on something like personal fear of the man and respect for his towering superiority over any actual or, so far as we can see at present, possible rival. M. Gambetta will, it is said, bring forward as a private member the great schemes of reform which he enumerated on Thursday, and which are destined to show that if he was not at the head of the much-rumoured Grand Ministry, he was yet a great Minister. They will be paraded before the Chamber and before France in order that the world may see what they have lost in M. Gambetta's overthrow. The position is difficult to the verge of impossibility. Disorganization in the Chamber will probably be followed by the recall of M. Gambetta to power, and by a penal dis-solution, or possibly by the abject submission of the Deputies in February or March to the proposals which they have rejected in January.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S EXPLANATIONS The dramatic character of the scene in the German Parliament the other day tends to obscure the real issue. It has been supposed that Prince Bismarck wished to threaten and overawe the Reichstag, but an explosion of violent anger can hardly be regarded as an evidence of a settled purpose. In reality the tone of the Chancellor's speech seems to show that the situation is in some respects considerably less serious than the Liberals believed after the issue of the now famous Rescript. They understood that, in the opinion of the King, every Government official in Prussia was bound to support any proposals which he might choose to set forth through his Ministers. Prince Bismarck, however, explained that officials of all ranks are free to vote as they please; it is only expected that they will not agitate against a policy which has received the royal sanction. To Englishmen it may appear hard that even this restriction should be placed on the liberty of a large and important class; but it is worth while to recall the fact that it is not so very long since precisely the same demands were made in this country. When Burns expressed sympathy with the revolutionary party in France, the Excise Board made close inquiry into his conduct; and he was at one time on the point of being dismissed from the public service. The Board have often condemned for their interference; but the latest biographer of Burns, Mr. Shairp, urges in their defence that "to have allowed any of their subordinates to set themselves up by word or deed in opposition to the Ministry," would have been "inconsistent with the ideas of the time as to official Some Prussian officials would, no dutv." doubt, be pleased to have perfect political liberty; but as long as their votes are free, the majority of them are not likely to complain much of the minor grievance Few members of the official class would care in any case to associate themselves with a violent agitation, at least on the

Liberal side. With regard to Prince Bis-

marck's interpretation of the relations of

even if they form a large majority in Parliament, can imperil his position. This is not only the theory of the Constitution, but it may be questioned whether any other system of government would be practicable in the present condition of parties in Prussia and Germany. Minis-terial responsibility in the English sense implies that parties are fairly well defined, and that a tolerably stable majority will give its support, at least for a time, to any Cabinet which may be formed. If this anticipation were not well founded, there could not be even an approach to continuity in the political life of the country. Ministers would be compelled to carry on incessant intrigue, and serious legislation would be rendered impossible. Now, neither in Prussia nor in the German Empire is there any political party strong enough to maintain a Government in power. At the last general election for the Reichstag the Liberals were unexpectedly successful; but if an Imperial Ministry of Liberal sympathies were appointed it would be removed from office on the first occasion on which it proposed an important subject for discussion. The Liberals do not nearly equal all other parties combined; and they themselves are united only in opposition to a particular set of principles. Clericals and the Conservatives, either separately or acting together, would be quite as powerless as the Liberals to uphold a Government; and the same may be said of any coalition of parties which has ever been seriously suggested. Even, therefore, if the Sovereign were willing to give up the rights conferred on him by the Constitution, he could not afford to do so : the change would mean a constant succession of Cabinets, each more feeble than the last, and absolutism in one form or another would become inevitable .-St. James's Gazette.

THE STATE OF THE MONEY MARKET. Whatever may be before speculators in stocks and shares, we may be quite sure that no reason can arise from any alarm by bona fide investors. If a panic comes, the wise thing will be for every man who can afford to do so to hold on :-

It is when the outside public rush to sell out the investments the returns on which constitute their means of living that a really for-midable crisis is produced, and that great public inconvenience and great private suffering result. A mere Stock Exchange panic ought only to hurt speculators, or men of business who have too heavily trusted them. It is quite possible that there may be a general fall in the price of securities, and, indeed, there has already been in a good many cases a considerable reaction from the very high prices touched last year.

The improvement of business will call for the employment of more capital, and which now seeks investment stock and shares will be put into trade. A good many people, moreover, may find themselves obliged to part with sound securities to raise money to pay the calls on the vast multitude of new companies which have come into being in the last year. But the increase of trade is likely to augment the real value of railway stocks and of other investments which are affected by the bulk and activity of our commercial transactions, and hence even their present high prices may be sustained although the conditions which have abnormally forced them up are withdrawn. At present it is almost impossible to invest money to bring more than about three-and-a-half per cent. A slight decrease in the market price of sound securities would not in any way indicate that the revenue yielded by them to permanent investors was likely to diminish the present at this moment in diminish. the prospect at this moment is rather of increase than of decrease-but would only give such investors a chance of placing their investments on somewhat better terms.—

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT HORNSEY.

Further inquiry into the cause and nature of the collision between the two passenger trains of the Great Northern Railway on Wednesday evening fully confirms the ac-counts already given. The thick fog having cleared away in the afterneon bore down again on Hornsey soon after five o'clock in a form so appalling that one of the men em-ployed at the station ran and informed his chief that black clouds were rolling up from Tottenham just as if the world was coming to an end. The fog signalmen were sent for, but having so recently left duty they could hardly appear again on the instant. A passenger who was in the stationary train says that he heard the guard whistle twice, as a that he heard the guard whistle twice, as a signal to start, but that the train did not at the moment move. He and his companions, all working men, filling a smoking carriage, called out jocularly, "All right, go on, we The next instant they telt a are all ready." The next instant they telt a thundering blow on the carriage, succeeded by thick darkness, followed by a feeling of being first pitched up and down, and then pushed along on broken pieces of wood. He found himself in another moment prone on the platform without the least idea how he got there. His first impulse was to call for his mate. Scores of similar crtes arose, mixed with shricks, wails, and groans. Hundreds of figures emerged from the carriages of the two trains, and ran hither and thither like great black phantoms in the thick fog, calling for their friends, and demanding help. While there can be no reasonable doubt that every effort would be and was used on the part of the railway company to give efficient aid, it is stated as a fact that one of the sufferers only reached the hospital at ten o'clock, the collision having occurred at half-past five, and that he was occurred at half-past live, and that he was conveyed from Kings-cross in a van which jolted horribly and put him to severe pain. There is on the other hand every reason to believe that the small staff at the Hornsey station acted with promptitude and effect. Immediately on the occurrence the station-master made it his first business to black both master made it his first business to block both up and down lines by seeing that the danger signal was put on at Finsbury-park, a mile and a half south, and at Wood-green, a mile north. The cloud of fog, it seems, was very local, and that both these stations were com-

paratively clear. Express trains were due on both up and down lines.

The guard of the advancing train, it seems, after it entered the fog, was unable to see any regular signal. The first light he beheld was one put on at the end of the platform after the mist had thickened. The ughbeleiving this light to be the distant signal of Hornsey, instead of being, as it was, within sixty yards of another train, the guard put on his vacuum brake, and brought pressure to bear in checking the train. There is, however, a slight incline towards the north, and even with the brake on and without steam, the momentum of the heavily-laden train must have given a rate of something like eight miles an hour at the moment the blow was struck. The effect seems to have been first to jerk upwards, and then to "telescope" the doomed third-class carriage. The roof flew off, the compart-

doubt as to its general soundness. A Minister has never been dismissed from office in Prussia merely because Parliament has refused to accept his measures. He is responsible to the Sovereign alone, and while he retains the Sovereign's confidence nothing that his opponents can do, even if they form a large majority in Parage of the eleven cases at the Metropolitar Free Harpital five have sustained politan Free Hospital, five have sustained fractures of the legs, one a scalp wound and fracture of the shoulder, another dislocation of the hip, another injury to the back, and another a slight concussion of the spine. The patients are all doing fairly well; but in the case of Mary Ann Chowles, sixty years the case of Mary Ann Chowles, sixty years of age, who has sustained compound fracture of the right leg and right thigh, and a fracture of the left leg, the chances of recovery are all but hopeless. Mrs. Chowles was accompanied by her granddaughter Dolly, a favourite girl of 16, who since the death of her mother had lived with her grandfather and grandmother at Wood green "This is to be a second or the second at Wood-green. This girl was killed by the side of her relative. Her father, who carries on business as a French polisher in London, did not receive intelligence of her death that night, nor did he, on seeing on the news placards the announcement of a railway accident, imagine that it so nearly concerned himself. His sister was expected to accompany her mother home, but had fortunately pany her mother nome, but had fortunately remained in London. In addition to the eleven persons under treatment at the hospitals, there are ten or twelve more who were able to reach their homes at Woodgreen, but are now under medical care, one suffering from concussion of the brain

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

OSBORNE, THURSDAY. The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely and the Hon. Victoria Baillie. The Queen and Princess Beatrice walked and drove this morning with the Empress Eugénie. The Judge Advocate General had an audience of her Majesty yesterday. The Hon. Lady and Miss Biddulph had the honour of dining with the Queen yesterday.

The Duke of Portland arrived in Grosvenorplace on Thursday from Melton Mowbray.

The Earl of Airlie, who came from India expressly to attend his father's funeral, will leave on his return to India at the end of the ensuing month, to resume his duties with the 10th Hussars.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

THE SUPPOSED NEW CONSPIRACY.

A Dublin correspondent wrote on Thursday night:—The absence of Mr. Forster from yesterday's Cabinet Council may be accounted or by the fact that Major Clifford Lloyd, the Special Resident Magistrate for the counties of Clare, Limerick, and Cork, has brought to the knowledge of the authorities at the Castle the existence of a widespread and dangerous conspiracy in his district. Major Lloyd, who is one of the most active magistrates in Ireis one of the most active magistrates in Ireland, has been able to discover the fullest particulars as to the membership, funds, and objects of this organisation. The news is regarded as very serious at the Castle. An informer has revealed all the plans of this secret association. The sudden orders to the secret association. The sudden orders to the 53d Regiment to come to Ireland may have been caused by the information forwarded to the Executive from Limerick and Clare. There is no doubt that money has been distributed for the purpose of the conspiracy, and that arms to a considerable extent have

been smuggled into the country.

An inquest was held to-day, before Mr. Coroner O'Donnell, on the remains of the man John Lennane, who was shot on Tuesday evening when sitting by the fireside in his son's house at Breaffa. The evidence was of a formal character, and no aid to the apprehension of the criminals was given. The inquiry was adjourned. Lennane had been quiry was adjourned. Lennane nad been warned repeatedly to quit his employment, and such was the feeling with which this murder was regarded in the district that up to five o'clock last evening no coffin would be supplied for the remains, till his son had to appeal to the parish priest to use his influ-

ence to get one.

Mr. John Moyle Mahony, supposed to be a Land League organiser, was arrested in Sackville-street to-day under the Coercion Act and lodged in gaol. Mr. Mahony is a Act and lodged in gaol. Mr. Mahony is a native of Cork, where he was employed as a clerk, but latterly he has come to reside in Dublin, and has been travelling about the provinces at intervals. His lodgings in Brunswick-street were a fortnight ago searched for documents. He went to Naas last week to visit the suspects confined in the last week to visit the suspects confined in the gaol there. A fair was being held in the town that day, and in the course of the afternoon it was found that a large number of copies of the "No Rent" manifesto had been distributed amongst the farmers in the market. When apprehended to-day, Mr. Mahony had, it is stated, in his possession some copies of the manifesto, and also blank cards of membership of the Prisoner's Sustentation Asso-

Messrs. M'Gough and Co., solicitors, have, on behalf of Mrs. Moloney and other mem-bers of the Ladies' Land League, addressed a letter to the heads of the Metropolitan Police Department, demanding the authority on which they have been seizing United Ireland. and threatening that if they are not within six days supplied with that information a civil action will be commenced. Only a few days since it was announced publicly by counsel for the Crown that the Lord Lieutenant had directed the seizure of that paper. To-de constables in several parts of the city took copies of the paper which were being sold by endors through the streets. A consignment of 250 copies of the Irish World was taken possession of by the police on its arrival at the North Wall from Liverpool this morning. The paper is dated at New York, January 21, and contains exciting articles with reference to Ireland.

There have been several cases of garrotin in Dublin during the past week. Respectable persons have been knocked down and their watches torn from them. These attacks are as a rule, made about eight o'clock at night when there are large numbers of people in the streets, and the garroters select the busiest thoroughfares for their operations.

Letters received in London from the relatives of Mr. John Dillon, M.P., state that his illness has now taken a form which may result fatally at any moment. Some weeks ago his family offered to remove him to the South of France, and steps were taken with this view, but now Mr. Dillon absolutely refuses to make any condition whatever, the Irish authorities having declined to meet the wishes of his friends in this respect.

THE DESPATCH OF TROOPS TO IRELAND. The 2d Battalion Grenadier Guards, com-manded by Lieutenant-Colonel Philip Smith manded by Dieutenant-Colone Philip Shith, and consisting of 29 officers and 661 men, left the Victoria Barracks, Windsor, on Thursday night, en route for Ireland, whither it had been suddenly ordered. The battalion marched to the Great Western Station Windsor, whence the Guards were despatched with about forty tons of luggage and severa horses, by two special trains for Milford Haven. Crowds lined the streets of Windsor, and loudly cheered the troops as they passed on their way to the station, which was also thronged. At an early hour on Friday morn ing the troops were to leave Milford Haven by steamer for Cork, which should be reached the same afternoon. The women and children have been left at Windsor. The Castle Guard at Windsor is now furnished by the 2d Battalion Scots Guards.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

Says Mister Punch with respect to the "Cloture," "Object to it because it is French? So is Premier. But if we want, good, foreible, colloquial English, why not call it 'the Shut-Up?' "Aye, jester; but there is no such noun substantive as "the shut-up," which is so much ungrammatical slang. It is true that we call the head of the Cabinet indifferently the "Premier" or the "Prime Minister;" but the French have no such terms. but the French have no such term as "Premier" in their political vocabulary. M. Gambetta is, or was (for there is no knowing what may happen in France by the time this sheet goes to press), "Premier Ministre" or "Président du Conseil des Ministres." Were he spoken of as "le Premier" there would be a roar of laughter. People would be think-ing of a "jeune premier" at the Vaudeville. "Premier" and "Prime," as we use them, are more Old Norman than modern French words. Thus, "premier Baron," "prime warden," "primogeniture."

warden, "primogeniure.

Did King Charles II. (who never said a foolish thing and never did a wise one) really make the remark that "English Bishops were not like the Bishops of other ceuntries, because they were not at the head of their profession?" Such an ostensible quotation from the dicta of the Merry Monarch was made the other day by the Rev. Dr. Belcher at a public meeting held to protest against the continued imprisonment of an obstinate Ritualist clergyman. Dr. Belcher's statement moved the audience to "laughter and cheers." If the second Charles really made the observation attributed to him, he was guilty of, for once, an extremely foolish utterance. Nor Bishops, nor Archbishops, nor Cardinals in Catholic countries can be said to be at "the head of their profession," seeing that the head of that profession is the Pope.

On the other hand, here is a well-authenticated anecdote about an obstinate Bishop which I find in Elmes' "Memoirs of the Life and Works of Sir Christopher Wren." The great architect had an uncle, Dr. Matthew Wren, Bishop of Ely and Registrar of the Order of the Garter, who having, as a stanch Royalist, incurred the displeasure of the Long Parliament, was immured in the Tower for nearly twenty years. Not long before the death of Oliver Cromwell that Prince went to dine with his son-in-law, Claypole; and at his table Oliver found young Mr. Wren, already famous for his attainments in mathematics. After some little time, the Lord Protector, fixing his eyes on Mr. Wren, said. Protector, fixing his eyes on Mr. Wren, said.

"You have an uncle who has long been confined in the Tower." "He has so, Sir," replied young Mr. Wren; "but he bears his afflictions with great patience and resignation." "He may come out if he will," pursued Oliver. "Will your Highness permit me to tell him this from your own mouth?" asked Wren. "Yes, you may," answered Oliver. And then he went away.

But when the overjoyed nephew related to But when the overjoyed nephew related to his uncle the particulars of this interview, the good but obstinate Bishop replied. "with warm indignation, that it was not the first time he described the little of the state of the st

time he had received the like intimation from that miscreant; but he disdained the terms proposed for his enlargement, which were a mean acknowledgment of his favour and an abject submission to his detestable tyranny." To the columns of a daily contemporary Mr. Algernon Charles Swinburne contributes a fine piece of poetic frenzy on the Persecu-tion of the Jews in Russia. I note in Mr. Swinburne's "cascading" lines these words, "by lying tongues adored." I was not aware till I read the Swinburnian effusion that adoration was an articulate performance. I always thought that it was one of attitude and gesture expressive of love, reverence, and worship. The position of "adoration" is minutely described by Mr. Anthony Rich in his "Dictionary of Roman and Greek Antiquities." The body was slightly inclined forward and the knees half bent, while the right hand gently touched the object (say, the altar of the goddess) which was adored. left hand was raised to the mouth and kissed, while it was waved in the direction of the venerated object. The movements in what the learned Rich terms the "pantomime" of adoration are exactly figured in a woodcut taken from Gorlæus, in which a warrior is represented mutely adoring a statute of Victory.

When Napoleon the Great was told that

When Napoleon the Great was told that Greuze had died in poverty at the Louvre, in which huge edifice the French Government formerly gave lodging—but not board—to a certain number of distinguished artists, he exclaimed, "Why did he not come to me? I would have filled his 'Cruche Cassée' with gold." I was reminded of this anecdote while looking over the very sumptuous art book (published by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co.), "The Great Historic Galleries of England." carefully and lovingly leries of England," carefully and lovingly edited by Lerd Ronald Gower, F.S.A. The volume just published comprises, among its splendid illustrations, which are executed by the Woodbury process, a copy of Greuze's exquisite "Girl with Doves," from the Hertford House collection. Lord Ronald tells us that the "Girl with Doves" was executed the "Girl with Doves" was executed the "Girl with Doves" was executed to expressly for a Mr. Wilkinson, who paid the painter 5,400 francs (say £180) for it. In painter 5,400 tranes (say £180) for it. In 1828 the picture was bought by M. Nieuwenhuys for 245 guineas. Jean Baptiste Greuze was not yet "up" in the market. The work then passed into the hands of Mr. W. Wells, of Redleaf; and at his sale in 1848 it was bought by the late Marquis of Hertford for £787 10s. At the present day it would probably fetch twice the amount.
Thrice possibly. Jean Baptiste Greuze is very much "up" in the market, indeed. At the San Donato sale Greuze's "Broken Eggs" realised no less than 5,040 guineas. Poor man! Another handsome contribution to Art-bibliography which I have before me is "Bartolozzi and his Works," by Andrew W. Tuer (2 vols. London: Field and Tuer), being a copiously illustrated biographical and descriptive account of the life and career of the famous Italian engraver-Academician. The work comprises a catalogue raisonné of up-wards of two thousand of Bartolozzi's engraver's prints-the most extensive record of his work yet compiled. The "getting up" of the work is as luxurious as it is tasteful; and it is dedicated to her Majesty the Queen. Among the plates are two exquisite impressions of the well-known "St. James's" and "St. Giles's Beauties" after Benwell; and on the frontispiece of either volume is a delicious little vignette of "Love and Fortune after Cipriani, with the epigraph "Sous leurs neureuses mains le cuivre devient or." "Why Cert'nly:" as Mr. Coghlan's "Colonel" would say: still, engraved copper-plates have had, time and again, the most disastrous of destinies. It is a matter of history that the heirs of the illustrious Jacques Callot sent scores of his most magnificent etched plates to the coppersmiths to be hammered into pots, kettles, and stew-pans. In his sketch of "Bartolozzi's family," which supplements the biographer of the en-graver, Mr. Tuer tells us that Bartolozzi had

a brother named Gaetano, whose eldest daughter, Lucy Elizabeth, married Armand Vestris, a dancer at the King's Theatre, and the grandson of the renowned Vestris, "who was designated by the Parisians le Dieu de la Danse." It would be more strictly accurate to say that the grand-paternal Vestris, who was one of the most conceited of mankind, was fond of declaring, in a strong southern accent, Moi, ze souis li Diou de la Danse. He asked such extravagant terms once in enterasked such extravagant terms once in enter-ing into a re-engagement at the Opera that the gentilhomme de la chambre charged with the direction of the Academie Royale curtly iron structure which is the first to suffer. Time is an infinitely important consideration in the sum of the King allowed his Marshals. Under these circumstances," replied the unbashed Vestris, "I should advise his lajesty to make his Marshals dance—if they an."

Madame Vestris's younger sister, Josephine,

iron structure which is the first to suffer. Time is an infinitely important consideration in these matters, and for every fraction of a second that the shock is parried by breaking springs and splintering woodwork lives and limbs are being saved. This being so, does it not seem that the last carriage of every train should be mainly or exclusively a buffer carriage, and should not carry passengers? told the rapacious dancer that the annual salary which he demanded exceeded the income which the King allowed his Marshals. "Under these circumstances," replied the un-abashed Vestris, "I should advise his Majesty to make his Marshals dance—if they

"married a Mr. Anderson, a singer, and appeared to have dropped into the obscurity of private life." I remember Miss Anderson well. She was an extremely pretty weman and a charming singer, and I saw her perform in a burlesque extravaganza at the opening of the old Princess's Theatre, under the Maddox management in 1842-3. Her husband was a well-known "sporting character," and something more. He was a most skilful and refined miniature-painter. - G. A. S.

CAMBRIDGE MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS. The final list, arranged in order of merit, of those students entitled to mathematical honours was published in the Senate House, Cambridge, on Friday. It was as follows:— WRANGLERS.
Trinity

	WR	ANGL	ERS	ad do rombias
Ds Herman	• 0			Trinity
2 Yeo				St. John's
3 Loney	•			Sidney
4 Brill .		•		St. John's
5 Randell		•		Pembroke's
6 Robson			.0	Sidney
7 Parker	. 1		•	St. John's
8 Harker		. 2		St. John's
9 Littlewood		. 4		Peterhouse
10 Hensley		. 4		Christ's
Johnson		•		King's
Ropes.				King's
Sanderson		:		Christ's
14 Searle		1		Pembroke
Davies				St. Catherine's
Nichols .	. :	-	•	Clare
17 Spurge 18 Floyd .		. 4		St. Catherine's
18 Floyd .				Peterhouse
Cooper		•		Corpus
				Corpus
Otton .		•		Christ's
Pearce				Trinity
23 Chisman				St. Catherine's
Dickinson				King's
· OHIVOL	. 3			Sidney
26 Winter 27 Malin	. · v			Clare
				Jesus
	ENIO	R OP	TIM	
Ds Walker				St. John's
Beevor Flack				Trinity
				St. Catherine's
31 Lax .				Trinity
Fraser Ward, A.				Trinity Hall
	W.		40	St. John's
Marigold Stevens				Trinity
	•			Trinity Hall
36 Das .				Clare
37 Frederick				Corpus
Fisher Ridley				Jesus
Ridley				Clare
40 Lawson -				Clare
41 Nichols				St. Catherine's
Gaskin				St. John's
Harvey				Trinity
Low .				Clare
Morrice	•			Trinity
46 Newman				Christ's
47 Cox .	•			Jesus
Falle.	•	•		Clare
Milner	. :			Christ's
Pollock	•		•	Christ's Trinity Clare
51 Lyon.	•	•		Clare
52 Bennell	•		•	St. John's
53 Clementso	11		•	St. John's
Barlow	•			Magdalene
Boulden				Trinity
to Detabalan				St. Catherine's
				Sidney
	UNIO	R OP	TIM	ies.
Ds Ryan.				King's
59 Keess				Clare
60 Haskell				Caius
Lyall.				Trinity

Cory . Wray Bartlett Beard Dalton Merrifield Trinity St. John's 78 St. Quintin 79 Williams . rinity Bailey Fetch Colman Longsdon orpus on-collegiate St. John's Trinity Hall

Tripity Hall

Corpus Emmanuel

63 Winter Hedley Neil .

Alford Kneale

84 Lomax 85 Lerigo . St. John's Corpus Trinity 86 Fox . 87 Goddard ** In all cases of equality the names are bracketed.

**Moderators.—Percival Frost, M.A., St. John's
College; Henry Martyn Taylor, M.A., Trinity

Examiners.—Ernest Temperley, M.A., Queen's College; William Burnside, M.A., Pembroke College.
Additional Examiner.—George Howard Dar-

win, M.A., Trinity College. R. A. Herman, the Senior Wrangler, is the son of Mr. R. M. Herman, of Bath. He was born in 1861, and was educated at King Ed-ward's School, Bath. In the Junior Oxford Local Examination in 1876 he was placed second in the first class. At Easter, 1877, he gained a mathematical exhibition at Queen's

College, Cambridge. At Midsummer, 1877. he was first in the matriculation examination of London University. At Easter, 1878, he gained a foundation scholarship at Trinity College. In July, 1878, he passed the first B.A. examination at London, being second in the first class of the examination for mathematical honours. In each college May examination he has gained a first class. Private tutor, Mr. Routh.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS .-- A BUFFER CARRIAGE.

A correspondent writes to the Daily Telegraph:—Railway travellers must make up their minds for collisions—at any rate, until the millenium arrives. The frailty of human nature, or its perverseness, or the thousand and one accidents that moving vehicles are liable to, are too much for the block system, interlocking, and telegraph signalling, and all the other preventive apparatus that science and mechanical skill hards. and mechanical skill have yet devised. This being so, is it not worth while considering if something more cannot be done to make the inevitable collision less fatal in its effects when it does occur? Permit me, first of all. to point out that a large proportion of railway collisions resemble that which occurred at Hornsey on Wednesday evening, the essential elements of which are a train running at considerable speed into one standing still. Such accidents take, of course, many other shapes, but this is the commonest form of all, and what is the most invariable consequence? That those in the last carriage receive the whole force of the concussion, are killed outright or terribly maimed and bruised, while in the next carriage there are wounds and bruises only, and these not nearly so serious: while in the next and next there are only severe shakings and joltings. Indeed, nothing is more marvellous in the very worst railway collisions than the comparative immunity of passengers removed a few compartments from those that first receive the undiminished shock. The natural philosophy of the subject is perhaps not difficult to understand, but the fact is surely instructive that the amount of peril diminishes in a large geometrical ratio as distance from the place of impact increases. Probably the chance of being killed or injured in the last carriage but one is not the tenth part of what it is in the last. At Hornsey the former vehicle and its occupants came out of the collision scatheless, and the like result has been seen in scores of in-stances, several that might be mentioned stances, several that might be mentioned having occurred quite recently. It is due no doubt to the powerful buffers between the carriages, and to the fact that the energy of the impact is largely spent in rending, tearing, and it may be lifting the wooden and iron structure which is the first to suffer.

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M Great-Britain.

LONDON, JANUARY 29-30, 1882.

FRANCE AND HER MINISTERS.

M. Gambetta's Ministry has been succeeded by a Cabinet of the once familiar type. M. de Freycinet, with M. Léon Say as his Finance Minister, a most weighty appointment, has returned to the offices he held in August, 1880, when his famous Montauban speech led to his resignation just a month after its delivery. Thus he is again President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs. Rumour connected his abrupt disappearance from the scene with a speech, not quite so peaceful in its tone, which M. Gambetta had just before delivered at Cherbourg; and the impression that the Minister was ousted because he showed his independence remains to this day. In any case M. de Freycinet went out, and M. Jules Ferry came in. He, at all events, did not eschew a policy of adventure, since he invented the Khroumirs, invaded Tunis, and extorted the Treaty which handed over the Regency to French domination. Tolerated for twelve months, M. Ferry, although he obtained a vote of confidence from the Chamber, made way for M. Gambetta and his short-lived Cabinet. M. Jules Ferry is again a Minister, but he has gone back to his old office, that of Public Instruction; he is not Premier. It may, therefore, be assumed that the principles which will guide the new Government in dealing with finance and commerce will have a less unsound economic basis, and that in regard to foreign affairs they will be those expounded at Montau-Sau in the pre-Khroumir period. After the events of the last two months, however, the future of France, always uncertain, has become more than ever matter for conjecture. The conduct of M. Gambetta himself, as a Deputy, must exercise a large, perhaps decisive influence on the course of events. A man possessing great abilities and rare eloquence does not readily quit the self-imposed task of forcing his countrymen to accept his convictions. Although a Cabinet with M. de Freycinet for its head, and so strong and liberal a man as M. Léon Say at the Ministry of Finance, looks as if it would last, experience warns us not to put confidence in the staying power of any French Administration .- Daily Telegraph.

The Standard observes :- It is said that M. Gambetta will "not offer any opposition" to the new Ministry. He could hardly do so, with any regard for political decency. One of the great advantages that must ensue from the fact that M. Gambetta has been in office, and has failed to cover himself with distinction, is that it debars him, for a time at all events, from resorting to the mischievous tactics with which he made the protracted existence of any Cabinet impossible. There is not a Republican Cabinet, whether it be that of M. Waddington, of M. de Freycinet, of M. Jules Simon, or M. Jules Ferry, that did not owe its downfall to the wires skilfully set in motion by M. Gambetta. He was a.".chartered libertine," who was allowed to do precisely as he liked, and at one and the same time to occupy the post of President of the Chamber and to direct the forces of the Opposition against the Government. The recurrence of such a state of things has been rendered impossible by recent events, and the reflectice warrants us in hoping that the new Cabinet may enjoy a longer lease of existence than any of its less fortunate predecessors. M. Gambetta is no longer the politician to whom all eyes were insensibly directed at every great crisis, and who was esteemed the last hope of the nation in any pressing emergency. He has shown, only too conclusively, that he is not even ordinarily useful or available. The French people must be very forgiving if they do not feel, and should they not feel for some time to come, that M. Gambetta has compelled them to go through a series of Parliamentary crises and political anxieties, without any cause compensation whatever. M. de Freykinet and M. Jules Ferry are once more in office. But why were they ever expelled from it? The country is in precisely the came position as it was three months, we might even say as it was three years ago. The explanation is to be sought in the domineering temperament of the man. Impatient of control and of opposition, he is incapable of presiding over a Ministry, with the view of bringing it into h armony with Parliamentary sentiment, as he is of tolerating the sight of a Ministry engaged in that attempt without his assist ance. If the French people have found this out—and it is hardly possible that they have not—the position of M. Gambetta will be seriously damaged, and his prestige materially lessened, by the events of last week. In any case it ought to encourage M. de Freycinet and M. Jules Ferry to assume a far more reso-Ilute attitude towards him than any President of the Council or any Minister has hi herto done. At the same time, no one will suppose that M. Garabetta is not still the most important individual influence in France. He has made it clear that he knows his own mind, and that he is resolved to have his own way or occupy a position of absolute personal independence. It is ncredible that he will ever again accept office until it is certain that Scrutin d'Arrondissement is to be abolished and Scrutin of Bokhara having been deposed by Russia, and of a Governor having been appointed by two things, therefore, must happen.

in time be carried. Which is it to be? We can have no difficulty in answering the question. It is the mode of voting that will be changed. M. Gambetta is too considerable a personage, too eloquent, too full of passionate fervour to be struck out of the running. France will be sure to turn to him again. We do not say the French people will necessarily be wise in so doing, for men of impetuous and arrogant natures are dangerous rulers. But we entertain no doubt that, whether wise or foolish, they will in due course again summon M. Gambetta to the helm. The most conspicuous, the most popular, the most dexterous politician, always ends by becoming necessary to democracies. Notoriety in such a society is synonymous with merit, and after being long talked about a man mounts to power without challenge, and as if assisted to it by fate. Were there in France a traditional and deep-seated reverence for Parliamentary institutions, M. Gambetta would have but a poor chance of recovering himself after his recent disaster. But there is not. Parliament is, in the eyes of the French people, of no particular sacredness, and it counts as nothing at a critical moment, against a

brilliant personality. We trust that our relations with France have not suffered, but have in reality improved, by the fall of M. Gambetta. The name of M. de Freycinet is far more reassuring in many respects than the name of the brilliant and despotic politician whom he has replaced. M. Jules Ferry, M. Varroy, and the rest of the new Ministry are either men of proved moderation, or at least are free from the suspicion of dangerous designs. The Cobden Club and the ultra-Freetraders can no longer rely upon the mysterious communications between M. Gambetta and Sir Charles Dilke. Whatever may be the character of the new direction of French policy, at any rate it becomes in name, as in fact, independent of the Gladstone Cabinet, and the isolation of our Liberal rulers in

Europe is complete.—Morning Post. M. de Freycinet, both at home and abroad, will be a Minister of Peace, as M. Gambetta was essentially a Minister of Combat. When the Deputy for Belleville threw out a rash challenge to Germany in his speech at Cherbourg, M. de Freycinet, then President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs, strove to undo the mischief by a conciliatory counter-declaration at Montauban. In the crusade against the unauthorised religious orders, M. de Freycinet essayed a tolerant accommodation and compromise. He fell because he was too moderate for the temper of the Chamber and of the politician who controlled the Chamber from the President's chair. But M. Gambetta is no longer master of the Deputies, and M. de Freycinet will probably have a fairer trial than was vouchsafed to him when he held office before. He is unlikely to be tempted into a policy of adventure. France has had enough of that for the time in the Tunisian enterprise, the exact relations of M. Gambetta to which have never been precisely ascertained. If, therefore, we are to have common action with France in Egypt, we very much prefer alliance with the France of M. de Freycinet to alliance with the France of M. Gambetta. - Daily News.

INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN.

The Calcutta correspondent telegraphed

on Sunday:—
"The news from Khatmandu shows that the conspiracy was more serious than was at first supposed and that the army is largely tainted. According to one report there is scarcely a family of any importance in the kingdom but had a member involved. The evidence against the conspirators is mainly that of a paper signed by them, in which their design was made clear. The name of General Juggert Singh, son of the Prime Minister, appeared amongst the others. He was absent on a pilgrimage to Pooree, but has been recalled and has arrived at Khat-It is believed that he was not really mixed up in the affair and that his name was used without his permission for the sake of the influence it would carry with the troops. The 21 persons who were exe-cuted were beheaded with khookries or Nepauli knives. It, perhaps, shows some advance in civilization, that recourse was not had to the old fashion of trampling to death The British Resident arrived by elephants. at Khatmandu on the 16th inst. Since then no further executions are reported, but six more persons haave been sentenced to minor punishments, and 55 have been released. The situation must be eminently disquieting for the Prime Minister and the Commander - in - Chief, but no fear is entertained of any danger to the British Resident, or of any rupture of our peaceful relations with Nepaul. The Viceroy held chapters of the Orders of the Star of India and the Indian Empire at Government House on Wednesday evening in the presence of a large assemblage, chiefly natives. The following investitures took place :- The Star of India : -Knight Grand Commander, the Nawab of Bhaawalpore; Knights Commander.-Sirdar Dewa Singh, of Puttiala; Sir James Gordon, and Sir Lepel Griffin. Companions.—Sirdar Bakshi Gonda Singh, of Puttiala; Dewan Ram James, of Kapurtalla; Colonel Twee-Mr. Durand; Wazirzada Mahomed Afzal Khan; Messrs. Horace Cockerell and Charles Grant. Companions of the Order of the Indian Empire.—Messrs. Dampier and

Lambert. The Sibi correspondent of the same journal states :-"In Candahar the Governor, Sirdar Abdul Rasul Khan, ably maintains his authority, although some of his brother officers would assert their independence of him. The Ameer is now endeavouring to replace Asmutullah Khan, as leader of the Ghilzais, by other less well-known men, such as, Mahomed and Bahram Khan. A nephew of Asmutullah, Fatah Mahomed, a Ghilzai, who had been

imprisoned in Candahar on account of his enmity towards his uncle, has been released and sent for to Cabul. Sirdar Mahomed Ishak, Governor of Turkes an, is said to have despatched a thousand Turcoman and Karabagh horsemen to Andkhui and Shora Tippa to watch the Russians at Karshai. A letter from Herat mentions that Ayoob himself and some important chiefs have been followed into the Russian camp by spies sent after them from Herat by Abdul Kudus, the Governor. Although Ayoob is known to be himself in Teheran, yet it seems not unlikely that some of his party should have elected to test the hospitality of the Russians who, if not in Merv, are in the Akhal Turcoman country. The informant says that these men were actually seen to enter the Russian camp. Among them are named Abdullah Khan, Nasari Hassain Ali Khan, late Commander-in-Chief, Naib Hazullah Khan, who acquired some notoriety for his engineering works against Candahar, after Maiwand, and one of the Candahar, after Matwalid, and also Taj ablest officers in the Afghan army: also Taj Mahomed Khan, son of Yahya Khan. In Candahar there is also a report of the King

Either M. Gambetta will never again be in office, or Scrutin de Liste will in time be carried. Which is it to speculate much regarding the future. Some one is said to have been seen surveying and mapping a road between Seistan and Candahar. Russia is said by merchants to be issuing orders in Bokhara for the clearing off of all stocks of tea and piece goods received from India, it is supposed with the intention of prohibiting all further import and securing the market for themselves. There is a general opinion expressed among the people in Canda har and these parts that the Ameer is not likely to visit India, as he will be unable to move.

The railway bridge over the Nari River being now completed, trains will run from Sibi to Pir Chowki, at the mouth of the Bolan,

and thus bring Sibi 18 miles nearer to Quetta."

The Ameer having now settled down at Cabul for the winter, appears to be employing his leisure in trying to stamp out the dis-affection by severity. We have already mentioned the execution of Mahomed Jan, one of that General's principal followers. Abdul Ghuffoor Akhundzada has now shared the same fate. It is reported that Fail Mahomed Khan, an officer who held a high rank under the late Ameer, Shere Ali, has also been executed, and that 1,100 persons have been executed, and that 1,100 persons have been imprisoned for political offences. An up country paper states that the numerous and sweeping confiscations of property by the Ameer have had the effect of completely stopping the system of exchange between Cabul and India, and that few bankers in Peshawur will now cash bills on Cabul.

According to the Calcutta correspondent of the Times, Abdurrahman is developing a ferocity worthy of the most blood-stained of his predecessors, and a reign of terror now prevails in Cabul. The Chitral Envoy, who is now in Calcutta, reports that all is quiet in the States north of Afghanistan. The Punjab frontier is also fairly quet. Several Afridi chiefs have arrived in Peshawur in order to have an interview with the Deputy Com-

FEARFUL RAILWAY COLLISION. FIVE PASSENGERS KILLED AND SEVERAL INJURED A terrible collision, accompanied by loss of life, occurred on the North London Railway,

not far from Old Ford Station, late on Saturday night. An empty coal train, composed of from 30 to 40 trucks, left Poplar at five minutes past ten in the evening for Willes-den. All apparently went well until the den. All apparently went well until the Fairfield-road-bridge, a point midway between the Bow and Old Ford Stations. The greater part of the empty coal train had already passed the bridge when some eight or ten trucks became detached from the rest of the train through the sudden snapping of one of the drawbars by which they are linked one of the drawbars by which they are linked together, and they were forced by the violence of the shock off the rails on to the up line. At the time that these events were happening in the rear—and it was the work only of a second—a passenger train from Broad-street to Blackwall was simultaneously passing the front portion of the coal train, and a moment later it dashed with fearful violence into the trucks that blocked the up line. The ill-fated engine was hurled off the rails and literally embedded itself in the solid mass of masonry of which the abutbridge is constructed. The ment of the brake-van which immediately followed was completely shattered, while the thirdclass carriage which adjoined the van was telescoped and crushed like so much match-The remainder of the carriages, though much strained and shaken by the severe nature of the shock, were not thrown off the rails, but the trucks into which the train had run were reduced to a hopeless state of wreckage. When assistance arrived on the spot the carriages and debris were piled up lmost as high as the level of the bridge, and the sight of devastation and ruin which presented itself was truly appalling. The train which met this lamentable fate is the one which starts from Broad-street at 7.50 p.m., and which is due at Bow at 10.13. It was, however, on this occasion somewhat late, as it was that time when it left the Old Ford The train is not, as a rule, we are Station. informed, a very heavily-loaded one, and the majority of passengers who do travel by it get out either at Dalston, Hackney, or Victoriapark. This, we understand, was the case on Saturday night, and at the time of the accident the train contained comparatively few passengers. After leaving Station it has to descend a slight de livity, and it is believed that when the collision with the trucks took place at the bridge-distant some 200 yards from the station-the train could not have been going at a less speed than fifteen to twenty miles an hour. The deep dull thud with which the train dashed into the trucks was distinctly heard both at the Old Ford and Bow Stations, though the latter is probably 300 yards from the scene of the calamity. Keeble, the stationmaster at Bow-a position which he has filled for nearly thirty yearswas at the time sitting in his room, and his first impression was that a train had been stopped by signal. Of that idea, however, he was soon disabused. Immediately he summoned the doctors residing in the neighbourhood, and proceeded to the bridge, accompanied by a strong breakdown gang. Mr. Bridges, the stationmaster at Old Ford, was equally prompt in coming up with assistance. On the character of the disaster being revealed, assistance from Broad-street was promptly telegraphed for, and Mr. Newton (the general manager of the line), Mr. Tem-pleton (the traffic superintendent), Mr. Park (the locomotive superintendent at Bow), and Mr. F. J. Dunn (chief clerk to the general manager) were soon in attendance, while strong working parties were brought up with all possible celerity. The work of extricating the passengers and removing the debris proved a long, arduous, and harrowing task. Nearly three hours had elapsed before the last dead body was obtained, so deeply buried beneath the wreckage of the train was the unfortunate passenger. Altogether five dead bodies were recovered, all of them being from the front portion of the third-class carriage that followed immediately behind the break-van. The dead comprised three women, one man, and a baby, and when brought out life was extinct in each case, though it is stated that one of the women must have lived some time after the collision The same was alleged with reference to the infant, which was found clasped to its mother's breast. As the bodies were extricated the were taken on to the Old Ford Station, and from there removed in police ambulances to the mortuary at Bow, there to wait identification. Those of the passengers who had sustained injuries were taken also to the waiting-rooms at the Old Ford Station and attended by Dr. Dickenson (the company's surgeon), Dr. Garman, and Dr. Talbot, all of whom rendered invaluable and praiseworthy service. The news of the accident soon spread, and in a short space of time some thousands of spectators assembled on the spot, lining the bridge in compact masses. The excitement was intense, and it was only with the greatest difficulty that a large body o police, under Inspector Back, could keep them rom closing in on the scene of operations, and thereby interfering with the efforts being made to rescue the passengers, both dead and alive, from the ill-fated train. After the task of extricating the passengers had been successfully accomplished the work of clearing away the debris proceeded with throughout the night, and the extent of the damage done may be gathered when we state that, although nearly

300 men were employed, it was not until

eight o'clock in the morning that the line

thickly over the whole breadth of the line, to such an extent, in fact, that the officials found even the six-foot way effectually blocked. Steps were at once taken, under the superintendence of Mr. Keeble and Mr. Bridges, to clear the down line, and on this being effected the up and down traffic was conducted during the night by the light afforded by the bonfires made up from the shattered rolling stock. The driver of the empty coal train was William Crab, while James Holmes, Frank Line, and Frank Day, were the guards attached to the train. John Whetherby was the driver and Edward Hayhoe the stoker of the passenger train. Both Whetherby and Hayhoe were severely shaken and thrown off the engine, but otherwise escaped injury. Jesse Gratwick, the guard in the van, had an almost miraculous escape, for though he had to sustain the full force of the shock, yet he remained unscathed, though considerably shaken. When daylight dawned it revealed a tremendous gap in the masonry of the bridge some nine feet high by five in width, and this alone bore terrible testimony to the violence of the shock.

A reporter who visited the scene on Sunday afternoon stated :- " The names of three only of the deceased have up to the present been ascertained, and they are as follows: Charlotte Miller, 27; Ellen Snary, 46, and her baby, Caroline Snary, two months old— all of whom lived at 10, Elgin-street, Hackall of whom lived at 10, Elgin-street, Hack-ney-wick. The body of the man and that of the other woman had not been identified up to a late hour on Sunday afternoon, though they have been seen by many persons. The woman is apparently about 22 years of age, 5ft. 3in. in height, and fair with brown hair. She is dressed in a black jacket trimmed with black fur, and a black fur tippet, blue staff dress, striped stockings, and sidespring boots. On her person were found two rings, one a gold keeper and the other a hair ring with gold heart, on which are engraved the initials "P. W." She had also a half return ticket from Stepney to Hackney, a leather purse containing receipt for registered letter, and a pair of black kid gloves. The man is about 25 years of age, 5ft. 7in. high, with fair oval face and pointed chin, the hair being dark and cut short. He is dressed as follows: -Brown overcoat, black undercoat and vest, brown striped trousers, fancy silk scarf with common pin, white shirt and collar, and sidespring boots. In his possession was found a brown leathern purse containing £3 10s. in gold, 11s. in silver, and 8 % d. in bronze, a cigar case with silver monogram, "M.T.," silver watch and chain, blue silk pockethandkerchief, a pair of brown dogskin gloves, walking-stick, a third-class ticket from Hack-

ney to Bow, and three small photographs."
The list of injured persons is as follows:—
Samuel Hamblin, 7, Stafford-street, Millwall, wine merchant, very much shaken.
Ellen Allen, 31, Wilson-street, St. Lec-nard's-road, Bromley, much shaken and foct sprained. Eliza Marley, 1, Schoolhouse-lane, Stepney,

much shaken. Mary Ann Seager, 21, Wilson-street, St. Leonard's-road, much shaken. Sophia Allen, 34, Tapley-street, Poplar,

much shaken.
Mr. G. Bolland Newton, the general manager of the company, has issued an official report, in which he says: "A serious accident occurred on the railway near to Old Ford Station at 10.18 p.m. on Saturday, the 28th inst., which unhappily resulted in the death of five persons, besides injury to several others. In consequence of the between Bow and Old Ford of the draw-bar of a truck in the 10 p.m. empty coal train from Poplar to Brent, some of the trucks were thrown foul of the up line near to Old Ford Station at the time when the 9.50 p.m. passenger train from Broad-street to Poplar was approaching. The engine of this train ran into the debris, and was thrown off the rails, coming in contact with the abutment of

the Fairfield-road-bridge." A later account, written on Sunday night, says :- " This evening, about seven o'clock, the body of a young man was identified at the mortuary by his father. His name is James May, 18, of 8, Malmesbury-road, Bow, and he appears to have been very respectably connected. Up to a late hour tonight the body of the woman had not been identified, though persons still continue to apply at the Bow police-station to be allowed to to the mortuary, with the view, if possible, of recognising the deceased. An inquest on the bodies will be opened on Tuesday at the King's Head Hotel, before Sir John Humphries, the corener for the eastern division of Middlesex."

Colonel Yolland, C.B., has been appointed to hold an inquiry into the circumstances attending the accident.

The Times remarks :- "What the official statement fails to explain is how it happened that the up line came to be blocked at all. The coal train was on the down line. It is clear, therefore, that the breaking of the draw-bar of one of the trucks does not account for the state of things which the up passenger train found. For all the official statement tells us, it would have been the down line, if any, which was blocked. The imperfect story needs, therefore, to be pieced out before it becomes intelligible. The cause of the obstruction on the up line was that the hinder part of the broken drawbar, hanging down underneath the truck, caught in a sleeper. The truck was thrown off the metals, and a general wreck of the whole hinder part of the train followed as a matter of course. The driver of the coal train went on without any knowledge of what had happened behind him. The driver of the passenger train had thus no notice of the danger in his way, and ran straight on into it. This accident seems to come as nearly as possible within the non-preventable class. There was no disregard of signals; no improper omission to set signals; no proved carelessness in any quarter. The one thing that needs to be any quarter. The one thing that needs to be explained is the breaking of the draw-bar. The defective state of this is the only matter about which blame can be thought to attach to anybody. It is to this, therefore, that at-tention will be principally directed in the coming inquiry.'

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely and the Hon. Ethel Cadogan, drove through Ryde yesterday afternoon. Major-General Du Plat was in attendance on horseback as Equerry in Waiting. Her Majesty walked with the Princess this morning. The Dowager Marchioness of Ely has left Osborne.

OSBORNE, SUNDAY. The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Abercromby and the Hon. Ethel Cadogan. Earl and Countess Gran-ville and the Rev. H. White arrived at Osborne. Earl Granville had an audience of her Majesty. The Queen's dinner party in the evening included the Empress Eugénie, Princess Beatrice, Lady Abercromby (Lady in Waiting), Earl and Countess Granville, Mme. de Arcos, the Duc de Bassano, Lieut. General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., and Captain Riggo. Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice, attended by Lady Abercromby and Major-General Du Plat, attended Divine service at Whippingham Church this morning. The Rev. Canon Prothero, M.A., and the Rev. H. White, M.A. (Chaplain of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen), officiated. The Rev. H. White preached the

was thoroughly clear and traffic able to be resumed. The rails where the engine was hurled against the bridge were much bent and twisted for a distance of some 20 yards and had to be replaced. The debris was strewn and traffic able to be replaced. The debris was strewn and traffic able to be replaced. The debris was strewn and traffic able to be replaced. The major, formed an ineffective conclusion to the Prologue, which originally concluded with a ballet. Act 1 opens with Moro's romance "Is it then in vain?" a melodious number in C major, modulating into various number in C major, formed an ineffective conclusion to the Prologue, which originally concluded with a ballet. Act 1 opens with Moro's romance "Is it then in vain?" a melodious number in C major, modulating into various number in C major, formed an ineffective conclusion to the Prologue, which originally concluded with a ballet. Act 1 opens with Moro's number in C major, modulating into various number in C major, modulating number number in C major, modulating number numbe SANDRINGHAM, SUNDAY.

dringham Church this morning. The Rev. F. Hervey, Rector of Sandringham and Domestic Chaplain to the Prince of Wales, officiated and preached.

The Prince of Wales returned to town on Saturday from Brantinghamthorpe, where he had passed the week as guest of Mr. Christo-

pher Sykes, M.P.

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived in the Clyde on board the yacht Lively from Stornoway on Sunday night, the Lively taking up her position alongside the Clyde guardship Warrior and the Russian turret ship Peter the Great at Greenock anchorage. Owing to the lateness of his Royal Highness's arrival, 8.30, the usual salute of guns was withheld, and was to be given yesterday, on the Duke's inspection of the two war ships mentioned and the coastgard station. On Sunday evening an official communication reached Kingstown, county Dublin, stating that his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh would visit that town on the 3d prox. Great preparations are being made to give him a suitable reception.

His Excellency the German Ambassador and Countess Marie Munster have returned to Carlton House-terrace from visiting Lord and Lady Brooke at Warwick Castle.

The Duke and Duchess of Bedford and Ladies Russell are expected in town this week from Woburn Abbey for the season.

The Duke of Rutland and party at Belvoir together five guns, were out pheasant shooting on Thursday last, and had good sport.

The Earl of Derby has left Knowsley for town. The Countess has arrived in St. James's-square from Knowsley. Lord and Lady Forester arrived in town

on Saturday from visiting the Duke of Rut-land at Belvoir Castle. Lord and Lady John Manners are still at Belvoir Castle. His lordship has nearly recovered from the effects of his recent attack of gont.

FAILURES IN IRELAND. A Dublin correspondent wrote on Saturday night :- The great topic of conversation in the city to-day is the enormous failures over the Mexican stocks which have occurred in Dublin. To-day another stockbroking firm has, it is stated, sought protection of the Court. Their liabilities are reported to be over those of the firm which procured the same order upon Friday. It is generally believed that the French crisis, to which all the failures are attributed, will not end at the two firms already announced. Two or three big houses are anticipated to go next week unless assistance is rendered. Apart from the stockbroking business, failures in foundry, building, and other businesses are announced. The liabilities in the first stockbroking failure are announced at £200,000, and in the second at over this sum. In the trades business the liabilities of the firm are mentioned at £60,000, and in the other £15,000. These failures have created a great panic in the city, and political conversation is completely obliterated. The shopkeepers of Dublin are endeavouring as far as they can stretch to get in their debts, but as their creditors are in the majority of cases the landlords, whose rents are being reduced, there is no possibility of any settle-ment for months. Business, accordingly, in Dublin in nearly every branch is at the lowest ebb.

ENGLISH OPERA Mr. Carl Rosa, while careful to maintain the reputation of his company by representing the best works of foreign composers, classic and modern, has, says the Observer, consistently shown himself anxious to present operas by English composers. Pauline has been unavoidably withdrawn from the programme of the current season, owing to the temporary indisposition of Mr. Frederic Cowen. The Veiled Prophet of Khorassan, by Mr. C. Villiers Stanford, would have been produced but for difficulties over which Mr. Rosa had no control. Under these circumstances, he has given a graceful recognition of English art in the production, on Saturday night, of More; The Painter of Antwerp, an English version by Mr. W. A. Barrett of Balfe's Italian opera Pittore e Duca, originally produced at Trieste in the year 1854. The plot of the opera is highly interesting, and the action takes place at Antwerp towards the conclusion of the cruel and despotic rule of the Duc d'Alva over the Netherlands. Previous to the

time at which the opera is supposed to com-mence, Antonio Moro (the "Painter of Antwerp") had been the means of saving a young lady of noble family, Olivia Campana, from an early death by drowning. A mutual attachment had sprung up between the two young people, and they were privately betrothed. The father of Olivia, having incurred the censure of the Spanish Government by favouring the cause of the Low Countries, had endeavoured to avoid punishment by bringing about the union of Olivia with Count Aranberga, one of the supporters of the severe measures adopted by the Duke of Alva. Olivia, distracted between the memory of Antonio, her love for her father, and her hatred of her husband, retires into a convent, from whence she causes to be spread abroad the news of her death. The opera is preceded by a prologue, in

which is shown the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Citadel at Antwerp. This is celebrated with all possible pomp and magnificence. Antonio Moro is busy making sketches for the picture of the event. A veiled female in the crowd gives him a letter. When the pompous ceremony is concluded, he finds that the packet contains a copy of the inscription on the tomb of Olivia. He then resolves to devote himself to art alone all hope of earthly love being blighted. While he is musing, the Duke requests him to attend at the Council Meeting to paint the portrait of one of the community of Nuns who have been charged with conspiring against the State. The judges have condemned all to death. The Duke exercises his prero-gative, and pardons all, except one whose beauty has touched his heart, and she is, as he states, to suffer for all. It is her portrait Antonio is to paint. The chamber is dark, and he is unable to exercise his art. Lights are brought. Still he cannot work; the nun obstinately retains her veil. This the Duke rudely tears off, and Antonio discovers his long-lost Olivia. He pleads for her pardon, and is denied. He refuses to degrade his art, and casts his pencils (on the ground. The Duke appears to relent, and, reversing the sentence of the judges, suffers all to depart freely. The lovers are again united. The Duke, not knowing that Olivia's husband is dead, hopes to share her favour; and when the lovers are making preparations for de-parture to Italy, finds his way, disguised, to the lonely room in the inn where she is waiting. She, supposing him to be Antonio, rushes into his arms, but, discovering her mistake, repulses him with scorn. When Antonio returns, and learns the position affairs have taken, he challenges the Duke to mortal combat. On his refusing to fight, Antonio, maddened with jealous rage, cast himself upon his would-be rival, to slay him. At this moment Vargas appears, and an-

nounces the Ambassadors charged with the Duke's recall. They also bear papers confirming the news of the death of Aranberga while in exile; and the lovers, free at last from persecution and trouble, look forward nappiness to the prospect of future joys. The music is of the Italian school, and more remarkable for fertility of melody than constructive power. The prologue opens with a march and chorus in E flat. No. 2, a quartett with chorus in G ("As a token is melodious and grandiose, and elicited much applause. No. 3, a Concerted Piece in formed an ineffective conclusion to

keys. The succeeding "Chorus of Students is bright and effective. No. 5, the Chorale, "Father on High," accompanied throughouf by the organ, is a well written imitation o the modern rather than of the ancient style of ecclesiastical music. Olivia's cantabile, "As by the river" (in E flat), is difficult, but insipid. The act concludes with No. 7, a finale after the early style of Verdi. In this scene occurs a long duet in A major ("In Misfortune") for Olivia and Alva. The allegro of the duet, tuneful but sprightly, is unsuitable to the dramatic situation in which it occurs. Act 2 opens with Moro's air (in Ed. 2.2) flat, 3-4), "Farewell ye thoughts of joy," a commonplace but tuneful solo, so well sung by Mr. Barton McGuckin that an encore was demanded; Alva's solo, in the same key and time, "Bold Knight," was equally successful, thanks chiefly to the excellent singing of Mr. Crotty. The duet "Greater Deed," sung by these two artists, though devoid of sung by these two artists, though devoid of originality, is spirited, and a final high B natural, brilliantly delivered by Mr. Mc-Guckin, elicited warm applause. No. 10, the finale of the act, commences with the chorus of Judges, "Stern Justice" (D major 3-4), a dramatically effective passage. The succeeding chorus is better orchestrated than most other portions of the work. The ensemble which follows, for principal and chorus, is which follows, for principal and chorus, is striking, but too forcibly recalls Donizetti's "Al suon dell', Arpe angeliche" in his Poliuto. It was capitally executed, and elicited well-merited applause. Act 3 opens with a very charming ballet, full of bright melody, and excellently orchestrated. The view of the Scheldt at Antwerp, with shipping in front and Notre Dame in the distance, is beautifully painted, and does great credit to the painter, Mr. Emden. It formed an excellent background to the evolutions of the ballet in the Danse Espagnole." No. 12, the duet for Olivia and Moro, commences with an andante in A flat 3-4 ("Once more the sunny past"), leading to an allegro in F ("Ah, yes, my dearest"), written in conventional form, and presenting little originality. Far more acceptable was the barcarole, "On my gondola so lonely" (A flat, 6-8), a graceful and attraction of the state of the stat tive melody, which can hardly fail to become popular. Admirably sung by Mr. McGuckin, it was enthusiastically encored. No. 15, the trio between Olivia, Moro, and Alva, recalls the trio sung in a somewhat similar situation at the end of the first act of Il Travatore. The opera concludes with a waltz in E flat, melodious and effective, but abounding in difficulties, which were ably surmounted by

Mme. Valleria.

The opera had been carefully rehearsed under the able direction of Mr. Carl Rosa. who on Saturday night was greeted with enthusiastic and prolonged cheering, when he took his place at the conductor's desk. The mise en scène was good, and Mme. Valleria (for whom an apology was made, on the ground of hoarseness, and who was compelled to omit the scena of Act 3), Mr. B. McGuckin, and Mr. Crotty sang admirably throughout the opera. Valuable aid was also given by Miss Giulia Warwick and other artists, by whom minor roles were filled, and the opera whom minor roles were filled, and the operation was received with every sign of gratification by the crowded audience. Whether it will secure a permanent place in the operation repertory is doubtful, but the name of the composer commands for it respectful attention. Framed on early Italian models, it exhibits their merits and defects, being constantly melodious, but seldom really dramatic. Its probably render it with a large class of amateurs, and the ing melodies are likely to become widely known, especially the Barcarole in Act 3. As a work of art, Moro fails to satisfy the requires ments of modern taste, but Mr. Carl Rosa must be thanked for giving us an opportunity

At the last Monday Popular Concert an interesting novelty was presented in an Ottett, by Svendsen, a Norwegian composer, whose works have attracted the favourable notice of musicians in every part of Europe. The Ottett can scarcely be judged with fairness on a single hearing; but it must be admitted that it is a masterly work, containing many original ideas, but too diffusely elaborated An early repetition will be welcomed. Too much praise can hardly be given to the clear and luminous analysis furnished by Mr. J. W. Davison.

Mr. Sims Reeves duly appeared at his first concert of "operatic, national, and miscella-neous music," on Tuesday, at St. James's Hall, and sang two songs. The concert was Hall, and sang two songs. The concert was supported by several well-known vocalists and the Anemoic Union, an instrumental body, consisting of Mr. H. Nicholson, flute; Malsch, oboe; Mr. Lazarus, clarionet; Mr. Mann, horn; Mr. Wotton, bassoon; and Mr. Sidney Naylor, pianoforte.

THE DRAMA.

A pretty little play by Mr. Henry Jones, whose comedietta, A Clerical Error, is pleasantly remembered by those who saw it at the Court, now precedes The Cynic at the Globe Theatre. Its motive is slight, but not too slight for a trifle such as A Bed of Roses; its characterisation is decidedly happy; it dialogue is bright, and, for the most part, natural. The hero is a young doctor—Mr. Dalyson—who, whilst retained as medical attendant to a wealthy and fanciful invalid named Vellacott, finds time to flirt a good deal with his crusty employer's pretty daughter. Dalyson knows that he has no business to do anything of the kind, inasmuch as he has no home nor settled income to offer to Dora Vellacott. Old Vellacott's dyspensia makes him so domineering and rude to around him that Dalyson might almost be pardoned for disregarding his wishes; but the young man fully intends to behave honours ably in the matter, and breaks down in his good resolution only on finding that Dora herself believes him to have gone further than he intended. He accepts his rather brutal dismissal with dignity, and is about to leave, when his intractable patient's mood suddenly about the suddenly about the suddenly than the suddenly about the suddenly suddenly about the suddenly su alters. The change is brought about by one of those chance discoveries so use ful on the stage. It appears that the ne'er-do-well son, whom Vellacott's bad temper drove from his doors two or three years ago, has returned to see his sweetheart, and to earn his father's forgiveness. The lad recognises in Dr. Dalyson a good Samaritan who saved his life at serious risk of his own. The result of the recognition is inevitable. The old man's heart, already softened towards his children, cannot remain hard against his son's benefactor, and A Bed of Roses ends happily, as such pieces always do. with the prospect of a couple of marriages. and the suggested improvement of a very disagreeable temper. The interpretation of Mr. Jones's comedictta leaves very little to be desired. Mr. A. Wood, a clever actor, who seldom seems to get the chance of distinction which he deserves, gives real freshness and humour to his study of irascibility in Mr. Vellacott the elder. He plays throughout with admirable consistency and point. Mr. Dacre as the medical lover bears himself not only in a manly fashion, but a great deal more naturally than he is wont to do. These two, with Messrs. Hamilton and Medwin, Miss Goldney and Miss Medwin in minor parts, helped on Thursday last to make A Bed of Roses a decided success.—Observer.

Prosperity continues to attend the majority of our metropolitan managers, and at several theatres it still remains necessary to book places beforehand. With the exception of the fog, on Wednesday night, the weather throughout the month has been favourable to laces of amusement, and the receipts during the holiday period have accordingly been con-siderably in excess of former years. But few changes of programme have been made. A morning performance of the She Stoops to Conquer was repeated at the Haymarket on